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Anniversary Tribute

to

George Martin Kober, M. D., LL. D.

In Celebration of His

70th Birthday

By His Friends and Associates

March 28, 1920

Francis A. Tondorf, S. J.

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Geo. M. Kober;

Born, March 28, 1850
LL.D., June 14, 1906, Georgetown University
M.D., March 7, 1873, Georgetown University

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George M. Kober, M. D., Dean of Georgetown University School of Medicine

FRANCIS A. TONDORF, S.J.,
Head of the Department of Physiology, Georgetown Medical School.

AS MUCH knowledge does not constitute wisdom nor a facile memory a philosopher, so mastery of the medical science does not of itself make a great physician. If he be without a heart, the sufferings and countless ills that human flesh is heir to become, to the practitioner so many modes or accidents of being, clinical phenomena, to be tabulated, observed, treated and cured, it may be, but there his philosophy of utility exhausts itself.

When, on the other hand, to skill and learning is joined the sweet and generous temper of the friend and comforter who knows the precious art of penetrating beneath the sore to the seared soul, then has medicine achieved the pattern set by the first Great Physician of Humanity.

It was not by chance that the Anglo-Saxons called the Saviour of the world "Haelend," the healer. The true dignity of knowledge lies in its dedication to the common good. To indicate that the seventy years of the life of Dean Kober measure up faithfully to this standard has made the task of itemizing the following facts one of sincerest love.

Dr. George Martin Kober was born to Jacob and Dorothea (Behr) Kober at Alsfeld, Hessen-Darmstadt, Germany, on March 28, 1850. He received his earlier education at the public and grand-ducal "Realschule" of his native town. His father, a revolutionist, had vowed that none of his sons should serve under a German king, prince, or potentate. Accordingly he early prevailed upon George to emigrate to the United States, which he did in April, 1867. Upon his arrival, he found that his brother Charles, who had preceded him to the States, had secured for him an assignment to the hospital corps at the Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. Under the tutelage of Surgeon Joseph J. B. Wright, U. S. A., Kober began here what might be fittingly styled his pre-medical course. His application in January, 1870, for an appointment as hospital steward was acted favorably on and

9756

accordingly we find him reporting for duty on January 10, at the Frankford Arsenal, near Philadelphia. Here he read medicine privately under Dr. Robert Bruce Burns, a graduate of the University of Edinburgh. Ordered to Washington, to the office of the Surgeon-General, in September, 1871, he found it possible to formally enter upon his medical studies in the Medical School of Georgetown University. With the schedule calling for no exercises before 5 P. M., Kober was able to attend all the classes and, not satisfied with this, he tutored privately under Drs. Johnson Eliot and Robert Reyburn. After two winter and summer courses he was graduated in March, 1873. The following winter he figured as the first graduate of a post-graduate course, inaugurated by Drs. Thompson, Busey, Ashford, and others, at the Columbia Hospital, Washington, D. C. During the period of his medical studies, Kober considered himself fortunate in being assigned the duty of indexing all the official communications on file in the Surgeon-General's office from 1812 to the date of his departure in 1874. In these dusty records he found many items of extreme scientific, historical, and epidemiological interest: so the reports of Surgeon William Beaumont, stationed at Fort Mackinac, Michigan, on his "Observations and Experiments in 1825 in the case of Alexis St. Martin," who had been treated for a gun-shot wound of the abdomen resulting in a gastric fistula: so too the report of a perforating gun-shot wound of the chest with recovery in the case of Gen. James Shields, of Mexican War fame. Of equal interest were the reports on yellow fever during the Seminole Indian and Mexican Wars, as also subsequent reports on yellow fever and cholera up to the year 1874. Kober learned here to respect the old Army doctors, for when referring to them afterwards, in his lectures, he ever insisted that "they knew how to use the English language better than men of modern times." Whilst engaged in this indexing, Kober had gained the confidence and good will of Surgeon-General Barnes and Assistant Surgeon-General Crane, of Drs. Joseph J. Woodward and George A. Otis, editors of the *Medical and Surgical History of the Civil War*, and Dr. John S. Billings, in charge of the library, and who, with the assistance of but one hospital steward, was laying the foundation of the Index Catalogue. Billings found Kober of service in supplying correct titles for the articles published in the German medical periodicals. His fellow clerks fittingly christened him "Index" because of his unselfish devotion to this trying work, and lest the harvester, Time, should rob him of this new birth-right, his close friend, George Dowe, on the occasion of Kober's twenty-fourth birthday, did this title into the following verse:

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

Index you are rightly named,
Let thy future name be famed.
I do not come in grim scholastic mood
To fulminate some dreary platitude.
But only wish, my loved and honored friend,
That hope and peace be yours till life shall end.
Hope, the sheet anchor of the youthful soul,
And peace when angry waves of trouble roll.
And, while you practice well the healing art,
Let strength be given to act the manly part;
Good common sense to know the good from ill,
And test the powers of plasters, draught or pill.
And if, upon some distant honored day,
The men and women you have cured for pay
Shall add their record to your fair renown,
By writing some good testimonial down,
Be this the message one and all shall send:
That every patient was your fervent friend.
Search carefully true wisdom's bounteous stores,
That all her waiting treasure may be yours.
May she attend, when years run trembling down,
With honors wreath your whitening hairs to crown.

Appointed acting assistant surgeon, U. S. A., he became post surgeon in July, 1874, at Alcatraz Island, California, which position he filled till November of the same year, at which time he was ordered to Fort McDermit, Nevada, in the same capacity. In the fall of 1875 he served with the First U. S. Cavalry in the southeastern Nevada expedition against hostile Indians and in 1877 took active part in the Nez-Percés war. From July to October of this year the field hospital at Kamiah, on the Clearwater, Idaho, was under his charge.

In November, 1877, he met for the first time Dr. George M. Sternberg, then post surgeon at Walla Walla, and this acquaintance ripened into a life-long friendship. Dr. Kober never tired of acknowledging his indebtedness to the General for the many inspirations he had received from him. Having served as post surgeon successively at a camp near Spokane, W. T.; at Fort Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; Fort Klamath, Oregon; and Fort Bidwell, California, he was relieved from this service on the reception of the following orders, highly commendatory of his efficiency:

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

Post Orders) Fort Bidwell, California.
No. 104) Nov. 11th, 1886.

*** * * In recognition of the long and faithful professional services rendered to the government during the past twelve years in the field, in pursuit of hostile Indians, and at various posts, the commanding officer cannot part with him without some expression of his feelings of regret, as part of this service was rendered under his immediate command.**

His devotion to his professional duties has been warmly recognized not only by his commanding officer, but by others, and has stamped him as one of the most skilful surgeons in the U. S. Army.

A steadfast friend, a faithful officer, with the many acts of kindness to all, professional and otherwise, he has endeared himself not only to the officers and enlisted men of the garrison, but to the community at large, which he has helped to build up. * * * He carries with him our best wishes for his future welfare and happiness.

By order of Major Gordon.
(Signed). L. M. Brett, 2nd Lieut., 2nd Cavalry.
Post Adjutant.

After severing his connections with the army, Kober remained at this station caring for his many civilian patients until June, 1887, at which time he traveled extensively in America and Europe. He returned to Fort Bidwell the following year. In the fall of 1889, we find him in Washington devoting his time to college, hospital, and literary work. Besides acting as professor of Hygiene and State Medicine in the Georgetown Medical School, he assisted his friend and former classmate, Dr. Carrol E. Morgan, in his specialties, diseases of the throat, chest, etc. In the winter of 1889-90, he directed the attention of the District authorities to the sewage pollution of the Potomac water, indicating this as an important factor in the alarming prevalence of typhoid fever in Washington. In August, 1890, he went to Berlin as a member of the Tenth International Medical Congress and there read a paper entitled: "Etiology of typhoid fever with special reference to water-borne epidemics." His California investments necessitated his return to Fort Bidwell in December, 1890. He resumed his medical practice there and for a year or more was again attending surgeon of the post.

His *alma mater* welcomed him back to the lecture room in the fall of 1893. From this date on, health problems of the District, its social and industrial betterment were his one concern. At the request of the Health Officer, in 1895, he investigated the possible causes of typhoid fever in the city and in his report suggested the agency of flies as a transmitter of the disease. His public addresses on various occasions and researches into the relative merits of the various processes of water filtration, very materially influenced Congress towards appropriating the necessary funds for the installation of the

model filtration plant at Brookland, District of Columbia. During the years 1895-96, Kober was a volunteer worker in the Hygienic Laboratory of the Public Health Service of the United States. As a member of the board of directors of the Associated Charities the housing problem for the least resourceful people in the national capital appealed to him with special emphasis and accordingly he is recognized as one of the principal promoters of the Washington Sanitary Housing Company, organized in 1897 and 1904. Through these agencies sanitary houses, at reasonable rentals, have been provided for over eight hundred wage-earners and their dependents. The success of this earlier enterprise has lent encouragement to a system on a wider basis not only in the national capital but other larger cities of the States and merited for Kober a gold medal of award at the Paris International Exposition of 1900. Acting as secretary of two housing companies from the day of their organization until November, 1915, upon the death of General George M. Sternberg, he succeeded to the office of president. In 1897, he was elected an honorary member of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, undoubtedly in recognition of his services as civilian physician in the United States Army as likewise because of his able communication "The Place of Military Medicine and Surgery in the Medical College Curriculum." When reviewed in the light of the recent World War this paper and a kindred one entitled: "Higher Medical Education and a Plea for Better Training of the Volunteer Medical Officer," published in 1898, have special significance. As a medical educator, Dr. Kober strenuously espoused every method of scientific research. Thoroughly convinced that animal experimentation must yield most marvelous results, we find him, as chairman of the Committee of Public Health of the Civic Center on February 15, 1900, filing a most vigorous protest against the enactment of Senate Bill, No. 34, whose purport was to restrict the use of animals for experimental purposes in medicine. The brief he submitted on this occasion embodies facts and arguments which convinced even the sponsor of the bill, Senator J. H. Gallinger, that the proposed legislation was superfluous. It may be pertinent to mention here that Kober very effectually recalled this incident before the Judiciary Committee Hearing in November, 1919, when a similar bill by the anti-vivisectionists was under discussion. In 1901, Kober was selected to deliver before the American Medical Association, at St. Paul, Minnesota, the "Oration on State Medicine." His theme was: "The Progress and Tendency of Hygiene and Sanitary Science in the Nineteenth Century." This same year he was invested as dean of the medical school of

his *alma mater*. His plans for a curriculum calculated to insure for medical aspirants a more complete and harmonious education was set forth in his "Plea for a Standard Medical Curriculum," read before the Association of American Medical Colleges, in 1904. At this meeting he was appointed chairman of a "Committee on National Uniformity of Curriculum." The report submitted by the committee was approved and it is a pleasing reflection to recall that Dr. William J. Means, in his presidential address, March 4, 1919, referred to it in most appreciative terms. June 14, 1906, Kober was the recipient of the honorary degree of Doctor of Law from his *alma mater*. The citation follows:

"It is fitting that universities should show their appreciation of their sons who have done distinguished service in the cause of science and humanity. There are none more worthy than they who lessen human misery and by their genius and devotion ward off disease and suffering amongst men. They are the true philanthropists, inspired with genuine unselfish love for their fellows. Such is the man whom this university gladly and gratefully honors today; a man who besides his duties to the public, acknowledged and rewarded already by distant nations, has labored in season and out of season for the welfare of the medical school of this university and of each individual student until his work has been recognized by the official medical body of the United States in electing him President of the Association of American Schools of Medicine, and in its public declaration that the course of study introduced by him into Georgetown Medical School should be the standard of all medical schools."

President Theodore Roosevelt in 1906, designated Kober as a member of the Board of Charities and in May of the following year as a member of the President Homes Commission. As chairman of the Committee on Social Betterment he drew up monographs on "Industrial Hygiene" and "Social Betterment," which were published as Senate document No. 644 in 1908. At the meeting of the first Conference on the Conservation of National Resources, which convened at the White House May 13, 1908, on invitation of the President of the United States, he addressed that body on "The Conservation of Life and Health by Improved Water Supply." Dr. Kober has been a member of the National Tuberculosis Association since its organization in 1905. He is also a member of the local Society for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis. His plans were adopted in the construction of the Tuberculosis Hospital in Washington, formally opened to patients June 28, 1908, and were awarded a medal at the exposition connected with the International Con-

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gress on Tuberculosis held in Washington in the fall of 1908. He may be very fittingly designated a pioneer worker in the crusade against tuberculosis, having read as early as 1889 a paper entitled: "Etiology and Prevention of Tuberculosis in the Light of Modern Research," before the Medical Society of the District of Columbia. This lecture was published by the State Board of Health of California as a special pamphlet in 1890 and was followed by a second in 1893, "A Plea for the Prevention of Tuberculosis," which had been previously read before the State Sanitary Convention of California.

Dr. Kober is a Fellow of the American Medical Association, of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, likewise a member of the Advisory Council of that same body. Member of the Cosmos Club. Member of the Association of American Physicians (Secretary from 1909 to 1916, at which time he retired and was elected honorary member). Member of the American Public Health Association(Vice-President, 1916). Association of American Medical Colleges (President in 1906). The National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis (President in 1915). National Housing Association. Medical and Surgical Society District of Columbia (President 1889, 1917-19). The Medical Association of the District of Columbia (President 1898). Medical Society District of Columbia (President 1903). The Washington Anthropological Society (President 1907, 1918-1919). The Social Hygiene Society of the District of Columbia (President 1918-1919). Chairman of the Committee on Lectures, Sixth International Congress on Tuberculosis, Washington, D. C., September 28th to October 5th, 1908. Honorary Member of the Medical and Surgical Society of Washington, D. C., 1910. President of Section IV, Industrial and Occupational Hygiene of the 15th International Congress on Hygiene and Demography in Washington, September 23-28, 1912. Chairman of Sub-Section C, Sociological Medicine of the Pan-American Scientific Congress, held in Washington, D. C., December 27, 1915 to January 8, 1916. Member of the Washington Academy of Sciences (Vice-President 1919-1920.)

In 1912, Dr. Kober was appointed by the President of the American Medical Association, Chairman of a Committee on Red Cross Medical Work. This Committee was created so as to provide a body of representative physicians of approved qualification to direct or participate in medical work, carried on by the Red Cross in different localities in times of war or emergencies and to advise with representatives of that society in handling medical and sanitary problems incident to such an occurrence. The Committee up to May, 1916, organized committees in 588 county medical societies located in

47 states. During the recent world war he was a member of the committee on "Conservation and Welfare of Workers" and chairman of the Committee of Rural Workmen's Areas with Special Reference to Housing; Member of the Council of Defense, District of Columbia; Chairman of the Committee on housing.

Dr. Kober is the author of 110 monographs, chapters in text books, journal articles and reviews on medical, surgical, sanitary and sociological subjects, and over 120 published discussions. His first medical essay was on "Infantile Paralysis" published in the *Pacific Medical Journal* in November, 1874, in which he presented all the available evidence that the disease was due to some organic lesion of the medulla spinalis. In the same year he published his Urinology and its practical application. In 1875, he published notes in the *American Weekly,* Vol. III, p. 241-243, on chronic dysentery treated with injections of a solution of chlorate of potash, and adenitis (tubercular) treated with injections of carbolic acid and glycerine. In October, 1876, he reported in the *American Journal Medical Sciences,* a case of gun-shot wound of the knee joint, in which he used probably for the first time an injection of tincture of iodine and carbolic acid. Dr. Edmond Souchon, of New Orleans, in his monograph on "Original Contributions of America to Medical Sciences" credits Dr. Kober as having been the first to publish notes on the three subjects referred to. He also credits him with having been the first to point out that insects, especially flies are doubtless frequently the cause of spreading typhoid fever. Dr. Kober's tabulation of 330 milk-borne epidemics and his monograph on "Milk in Relation to Public Health" and his first book on "Industrial Hygiene," published as Senate documents, and his chapter dealing with the effects of diminished atmosphere upon the health of aviators published in 1916, are regarded as pioneer contributions to American medical literature.

Such is the story of a lifetime of sound scholarship and scientific achievements which have made him an ornament to the medical profession and a consolation to his *alma mater.* No form of human misery has been so low as not to be the object of his solicitude, no need of the University has been so insignificant as not to command complete response. He has done good in the open, he has done good by stealth, but, withal, as one devoid of the spoiling taint of vanity or self-seeking. Of a personal integrity unimpeached and unimpeachable, of unswerving fidelity in adherence to high ideals of medical education, his is the singular privilege to note his name chiseled high on the pillar of the temple of fame.

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

Kober as Dean

WILFRED M. BARTON, M.D., '92.
Professor of Therapeutics, Georgetown Medical School.

June 13th, 1901, was an important day in the history of the Georgetown Medical School for on that date George Martin Kober was elected Dean. Nearly twenty years have since elapsed and preparations are complete for a great testimonial in honor of his 70th birthday and of the high esteem in which he is universally held.

The election of Dr. Kober to the Deanship was made at a regular meeting of the Medical Faculty on motion of Prof. S. S. Adams; and Prof. Joseph Tabor Johnson, Vice-President, was requested to cast the unanimous ballot of the faculty for him as Dean. Dr. Kober is the seventh Dean which our seventy year old medical school has had. His predecessors were Howard, Eliot, Reyburn, Ashford, Lovejoy and Magruder. In point of years of service only one has equalled him, namely, Eliot who served continuously in the same office from 1856 to 1876. At the time of Dr. Kober's election as Dean in 1901, Rev. Father John D. Whitney was Rector of the University, soon to be followed by Rev. Father Jerome Dougherty. These two distinguished Jesuit Fathers have intertwined their names into the very tapestry of Georgetown history and it was under their authority that Dr. Kober began that work for the Medical School which has moulded its form and nurtured its development and progress for a fifth of a century.

The acclamation of his colleagues on his election had scarce died away on that night of June 13th when Dr. Kober was called upon to present his report to the Faculty of the meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges which he had attended at St. Paul on the 3rd of June. We mention this report specifically because it gives a key to the character and an example of the sturdy service of the man. He had gone to the meeting at St. Paul as a delegate from Georgetown Medical School, in whose faculty he was professor of hygiene. It was his duty to attend the meetings of the association, to listen to the papers, to partake in the discussions and to report to his colleagues what had been done by those who were interested in medical education. This he did, and on that night after his election he gave a succinct but comprehensive report of what he had seen and heard at the meeting in St. Paul. He told them that the tendency of medical education seemed to be along the lines of emphasizing practical rather than didactic

teaching in the medical schools. Always on the lookout to have Georgetown in the advance guard of progressive schools and advocating every true reform in medical teaching, Dr. Kober urged upon his colleagues the necessity of striving for the highest ideals to be maintained by the medical school. On many subsequent occasions Dr. Kober pleaded for his high ideals, not always without opposition from those of a conservative group who believed rather in following closely than in leading. It is needless to say that this characteristic of Dr. Kober to stake everything on the altar of his ideals has been a chief factor in enlarging the reputation and prestige of Georgetown Medical among the elite colleges of the country. Unendowed and consequently handicapped for funds the Medical School has had a somewhat difficult struggle, and a man of less grit than he might well have been excused for adopting an ultra-conservative policy in the face of the many demands being made for higher ideals in medical education. But such a thing never occurred to him to do. If the proposition was to lengthen the hours of work, to increase the burden of endeavor in any direction, if it meant progress for the school, he favored and adopted it. His untiring devotion and support, his disposition to shift no responsibility or labor and, finally, his unfailing optimism have always been factors in overcoming what appeared at first sight to be almost insurmountable obstacles and difficulties.

In October, 1902, Dr. Kober brought before the faculty the schedule of minimum requirements for medical schools adopted by one of the Western States, and because of its progressive character earnestly advocated and secured its adoption. The development of a standard curriculum for all medical schools soon took possession of his mind, and to the perfection of this scheme Dr. Kober for several years devoted a great deal of energy. In 1904 he secured the appointment of a committee by the Association of Medical Colleges to investigate this question, and in 1905 the report of this committee, of which he was chairman, was adopted. In 1906, Dr. Kober was elected president of the association. It seems incredible that a single mind could develop such power of concentration upon a single topic and yet find energy and opportunity for the pursuit of a great variety of scientific and civic activities; activities which varied from studies of the epidemiology of typhoid fever to sanitary house construction; from scientific work in many fields of public health and hygiene to civic labors of multitudinous variety. Nevertheless this was the case, for during the early years of his deanship, when a thousand details of college and hospital administration and construction continually harassed him, he found time to keep up his association

with scientific bodies of many sorts and with civic and social duties which would have overwhelmed the average man.

Dr. Kober has always been a great detailist without being small or petty, a particularist without being narrow or prejudiced. Much of his writing, both scientific and secular, he has often done with his own pen, at what must have been prodigious labor, so careful has he always been that any piece of literary, scientific or even clerical work to which his signature was to be affixed should be absolutely accurate and exact.

The history of our University Hospital is all bound up with the name of Kober. At the time of his election to the office of Dean in 1901 all there was of Georgetown Hospital was a small central wing located on a plot of ground next to the corner of 35th and N streets, four stories and a basement high, accommodating twenty-nine beds, which had been built in 1898 at a cost of about thirty thousand dollars in money and an amount of human energy and aspiration too great for adequate description. For, this institution small in size at that time, now grown to large proportions, represented the realization of a dream which all loyal medical sons of Georgetown had had for many years to build a clinical hospital in connection with the medical school. Dr. Kober had been a leading spirit in this movement long before he became Dean. He had preached the necessity of a hospital to be attached to the medical school, he had aroused enthusiasm in his colleagues and the public, he had begged funds and given money from his private resources: in short, he had worked with untiring enthusiasm for the realization of his ideal. It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that when he became Dean, Dr. Kober's chief ambition, it may be truly said, was to develop the hospital idea in every possible direction. Anyone who will stand today at 35th and N streets and contemplate the extensive hospital buildings occupying half a city block will feel to what a wonderful extent his dreams have come true and how completely his aspirations have been realized. It will be appreciated also with equal force what energy, what indomitable will, what capacity for mental and physical work, what hope and trust under trying circumstances, were displayed by the man—Our Dean—upon whom all these responsibilties were piled.

Dr. Kober's almost herculean labors in behalf of the University Hospital may perhaps be best appreciated by giving a brief account of the developments which have taken place in its growth since he became Dean of the Medical School, in each one of which he took a prominent part both in its

origin and in its progress. The original small hospital building was completed in August, 1898. In 1903 the first addition was completed. This was a wing on the east side, four stories and basement high, which increased the capacity of the hospital to one hundred beds. In 1904 Dr. Kober personally completed and equipped a new operating amphitheatre in memory of his parents. In 1907 the new nurses' home was built. In 1908 the Lisner Memorial addition to the hospital was erected, which increased the capacity to 155 beds, and other additions and improvements were made. In 1910, Mr. E. Francis Riggs was interested by Dr. Kober in the subject of erecting a maternity building, but the untimely death of Mr. Riggs in that year prevented him from carrying out this worthy charity. His widow, however, in 1911 generously created the Francis Riggs building fund for the erection of a building in commemoration of her husband. The Riggs maternity was built in 1911. In 1912 Dr. Kober personally authorized the erection of a building four stories high, which was completed in the same year, and has since been known as the Kober Building. In 1914 Dr. Kober installed in this addition a modern x-Ray department. In 1917 an addition was made to the outdoor department, which provided a much greater space and enlarged its facilities. In 1919 two wards were completed, with a capacity of thirty beds, making the total capacity for the hospital three hundred beds. The number of patients treated in the hospital has increased from 273 house cases and 633 dispensary cases in 1908 to 4,329 house patients and 15,325 outdoor patients in 1919.

This short resume of the development of the University Hospital during Dr. Kober's service as Dean will give a slight idea of the enormous labor and responsibility involved in their realization. Dr. Kober will always be remembered as the director and part creator of this great work, which in itself would be a sufficient life labor for any man. To feel that he is the recipient of well-merited praise and admiration from his colleagues and friends and all those who are interested in Georgetown University Hospital must always be a source of gratification to him.

In considering the subject of Kober as Dean many interesting facts worth recording leap into memory. Unfortunately, limitations of space forbid us mentioning them. There is one circumstance, however, which should not be forgotten. Dr. Kober, in 1893, re-introduced into the medical curriculum a course on military surgery and hygiene, for it was at Georgetown in 1864, during the Civil War, that the first course of lectures ever given in

an American medical school upon this subject was delivered by Dr. Thomas Antisell of the United States Army.

The office of dean in the modern medical school has lost much if not all of its original ecclesiastic significance, but Dr. Kober in his unselfish and untiring devotion to Georgetown has managed to reflect upon his work some of the spirituality of the ancient Decani. It will remain for the future historian of our Alma Mater—some future Easby-Smith renowned in classical scholarship and love for Georgetown—to write the complete history of the deanship of George Martin Kober. In the meanwhile it is the wish of all that he may be spared for many years to contemplate the fruition of his long labors and see them grow into even greater things.

Kober as the Student's Friend

JOHN A. FOOTE, M.D., '06.
Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Georgetown Medical School.

I do not think that any phase of Dr. Kober's career is better known than that of his paternal attitude toward the student in the medical school. There may have been some students who passed through the modest building on H Street with little or no personal contact with the Dean except in the lecture room, but there are not many such. Few men can live four years in the modern medical school without some sort of worry—scholastic, financial—or what not. To the students in trouble Dr. Kober is best known, not as the exemplar of retributive justice, but rather as "one who was born for the world rather than for himself."

The delinquent student may have worried about his class standing more than the Dean—but he did not grieve as much as Dr. Kober. The Dean has a soft spot in his heart for those boys whom he has often referred to as "weak vessels." Indeed, he has frequently stood in a painful position—his affection for the student balanced against his desire to uphold the high standing of the graduates from the institution which he loves so well.

Poor indeed in discernment is the man who does not see the friendly interest and feel the kindly urge of Dr. Kober's friendship at all such times, and many a heedless or many a loitering candidate for a degree has been spurred to hopeful action by the knowledge that he has a real friend in the Dean's office, who believes in him and counsels him as a father might counsel a son.

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

I don't think anyone will really know how many students have gone to him with their financial problems. It is safe to say that no individual willing to work has ever applied in vain to him for aid in eking out tuition at the medical school.

Dr. Kober believes that "faith without good works is dead." He is himself an untiring worker and he has always expected his students to work. It was Dr. John Brown, who said: "I don't expect my students to know everything, but I expect everyone of them to be able to *do* something." Dr. Kober is tolerant of the man who is not unusually intelligent, provided he atones for it by being consistently industrious. Laziness and wastefulness, especially of time, he always has and always will abhor.

I can remember very distinctly how in my student days the Dean invited me to his home to attend a meeting of a local medical society, how on another occasion he talked with me on the necessity of the younger man doing original work and showed me a splendid brochure on urinalysis which he had written when both himself and this branch of clinical medicine were comparatively young. This was only one of his methods of education employed with the hope of making the student think for himself and have confidence in his own judgments and potentialities.

Some day Dr. Kober may be induced to publish a book of letters from fathers taken from the large collection of these epistles which he has received. Very soon the father of the student discovers the paternal strain in Dr. Kober, and that is why the latter's correspondence is so voluminous. From counseling wayward sons to disbursing monthly stipends—all sorts of offices have been intrusted to him by confiding old gentlemen, and many of these the Dean has gravely performed, possibly because of the innate courtesy which so characterizes him, but more probably because he secretly likes these offices of vicarious fatherhood to be thrust upon him.

As a teacher in the lecture room it was always observed that the lectures on hygiene were well attended and that excellent notes were taken by the students. Dr. Kober's lectures in hygiene were carefully written and delivered slowly and with a vocal distinctness that was eminently satisfying. The largest annual attendance—recruits coming often from both upper and lower classes—was always noted at about the time when commercial beverages were being considered, because it was at one time the custom to have the classes inspect, not only wholesale bottling establishments and dairies, but also a brewery located near the Museum of Hygiene. Needless to say the maximum attendance came and the most diligent attention was observed at the

lectures on fermented beverages. The enthusiasm of the young men in testing on themselves the physiological action of the malt beverages—these experiments being made possible by the too generous hospitality of the brewers on visits of inspection, obliged the cessation of one very popular feature of the course in hygiene and dietetics.

To the thoughtful student, Dr. Kober has always seemed more than a friend, a counselor, or a teacher. The lesson of unselfish devotion to the cause of medical education which he instilled by his long hours spent at the school each day, his efforts to know and properly value the work of each student, his personal gifts to the University Hospital, and his scrupulous attendance at all University functions, have long made him more an institution than a mere individual—one whom we did not judge by the ordinary values with which we measure men, but rather as one concerning whom we might quote the lines from Othello:

"He hath a daily beauty in his life
Which makes me ugly."

George Martin Kober

An Appreciation.

LLEWELLYN ELIOT, M.D., '74.

Seventy years today; seventy years of service! It seems impossible for me to realize that for forty-nine of these George Martin Kober has been my fast friend and my guide.

Our acquaintance was formed during September, 1871, when he became a student of medicine in my father's office, and as the years rolled by this acquaintance was cemented by a strong bond of friendship. Looking to those years it has been amazing that we should have been friends, since George Kober was my very antithesis in point of disposition and habits. He was studious, moderate, modest and retiring, while I, on the other hand, did not cultivate these qualities so faithfully. As a pupil his intelligence and understanding, his industry and perseverance made him a graduate of whom any instructor could well be proud. While he was a student we were serving as hospital stewards in the army; and after his graduation Dr. Kober became one of the first matriculants in Dr. J. Harry Thompson's School of Obstetrics and Gynecology, where he passed his examinations without an error, but

Dr. Thompson was forbidden by the Secretary of War to award diplomas, inasmuch as his school had been established without official authority.

We next find Dr. Kober as a contract surgeon in the army at Alcatraz Island, California, serving with that faithfulness to duty characteristic of the man, and it was here that he added the study of hygiene to his other accomplishments.

His model reports to the State Board of Health of California were widely circulated, but the first paper published by Dr. Kober himself was a study of Infantile Paralysis, in the early seventies. Then came a Manual on Urinary Analysis, and soon a treatise on "A Case of Gun-shot Wound of the Knee Joint." In this Dr. Kober described the use of tincture of iodine as an antiseptic, and I believe this to be the first published report of such a use for iodine. No attention was then paid to this treatment, but Dr. Kober today sees the general adoption of his idea by the profession, although due to his modesty it is only recently that his claim to priority has been mentioned.

Since those early days his publications, each one marked by a master's hand, have become legion, and these, with his splendid work at Georgetown University Hospital, have brought him honors and official positions at home and abroad.

To write more of Dr. Kober would encroach upon the fields of others of his friends who will wish to pay him tribute, but none would begrudge the space in which I tender my congratulations and my wishes for continued years of health and happiness to a true friend, a genial companion, an earnest student, a diligent worker in the cause of humanity, a charitable and godly man. What else may one say?

Tribute of the Rev. J. Havens Richards, S. J.

President of Georgetown University, 1888-1898.

I am rejoiced to learn that our dear dean and devoted friend, Dr. Kober, is about to celebrate his seventieth birthday and to be myself privileged to add my congratulations to those of his many intimate friends. To grow old is not always a pleasant thing and a cause of rejoicing, in spite of the advantages set forth so attractively by Cicero in the treatise De Senectute that is read with such trustfulness by your youthful students. But to grow old and yet remain young—that is an achievement worthy of admiration and joy! And this is truly Dr. Kober's privilege.

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

My first acquaintance with the doctor was at the centennial celebration of the College in February, 1889. He was then in the middle years and had not yet begun those extensive and careful researches in hygienic science or other departments that have since rendered him so well known and distinguished in his profession. Anyone who may be curious can find his portrait in the centennial group photograph, in the first line of the alumni present, and will be struck by the fact that it differs scarcely a particle from his appearance today.

Some time afterwards I received a note from him, dated from somewhere in the wilds and mountain fastnesses of Idaho, respectfully drawing my attention to the fact that an omission had occurred in the awarding of honorary degrees at the academic session of the celebration. He considered that Dr. Ethelbert Carroll Morgan, then professor of laryngology in our Medical School, but a hopeless invalid, was eminently worthy of an honorary degree. He set forth strongly the distinguished position held by Dr. Morgan in his specialty and his international reputation, evidenced by his incumbency as president of the American Association of Laryngologists. He added that besides his eminent worthiness, the shadow of his approaching end would make the conferring of the honor a graceful and consoling tribute. Being then quite fresh in office and not having had the privilege of birth or residence in Maryland, I was not acquainted with the historic family of Morgan, so intimately connected from the earliest times with the Jesuit Fathers, save that I had taught Dr. Carroll's younger brother, J. Dudley Morgan (who later became a distinguished figure in medical circles in Washington) in the class of physics in his graduating year. But inquiry among those who knew confirmed Dr. Kober's estimate of this professor. The degree was awarded at the next commencement in June, 1889.

That incident was characteristic of George M. Kober. He never thinks of himself, but is keenly alive to the interests and happiness of his friends and the furtherance of every good and noble cause.

When Dr. Kober returned from the Wild West, in 1893, and became permanently associated with our faculty as professor of hygiene, my acquaintance with him became more intimate and ripened into warm friendship. I do not think it possible for anyone to really know Dr. Kober and not love him.

It was in the foundation of the Georgetown University Hospital, toward the end of my term as president, that I was most closely associated with Dr. Kober. He was not the very first to work for the hospital but he was by

far the most devoted and efficient factor in its inception, as he has been in its growth and expansion. If the history of the hospital is ever written in detail, as it no doubt will be, the name of Kober will shine therein with a lustre beyond all others.

At that time the faculty and directors of the College had in view and in desire three great objectives—a gymnasium, a preparatory department separate in locality from the College itself and a school of physical science and engineering. In remote preparation for the accomplishment of the last of these projects, Dr. Edgar Kidwell, now head of the Kidwell Boiler and Engineering Company of Milwaukee, had made a tour of inspection of the leading engineering schools of the East and had handed in estimates of the faculty and equipment needed for a start and of the probable expense. But when Dr. George L. Magruder, then the energetic and devoted dean of the medical department, reported that the professors had reached the conclusion that a hospital of our own was an absolute and pressing necessity, all other ambitions were laid aside for the time being and all energies were devoted to this object. Dr. Magruder and I called one Sunday morning on Martin F. Morris, the venerable dean emeritus of the law faculty and the chief adviser of the College, and, in company with Mr. Morris, went to see Mr. Elisha Francis Riggs, who had shortly before fitted up the Riggs Library of the College. We were most cordially received, and to encourage the movement Mr. Riggs subscribed immediately one thousand dollars. A committee was promptly organized to raise the necessary funds, of which body Dr. Kober was made secretary and treasurer, and soon proved to be the very soul. As the president of the University is ex-officio the beggar-in-chief, I was brought into constant contact with Dr. Kober in our efforts to stimulate the generosity of our friends and the general public. At that time the systematic drives of the present day were unknown. Our methods were comparatively crude and ineffective. We had secured the cordial approbation of His Eminence, Cardinal Gibbons, who consented gladly to our inviting the Sisters of St. Francis of Glenriddle, Pa., to this portion of his archdiocese. We had the no less hearty co-operation of His Grace, Archbishop Ryan of Philadelphia, whose consent was necessary to the coming of the Sisters. We had the enthusiastic welcome of the people of Georgetown to the plan. But we had no money; and the task of getting it proved anything but easy and agreeable. We received much sympathy but little cash. I can never forget the self-devotion and constancy with which Dr. Kober pursued the quest. It was due to his initiative that the first room was founded by Mr. Lisner,

whose interest, once awakened, continued until it resulted in after years in the erection of a separate wing of the hospital. Finally Dr. Kober and I made a personal canvass of a number of the business houses of Washington. We were always respectfully, frequently cordially, received. But rebuffs were not wanting and the sums subscribed were in general pitifully small. I doubt whether I would have had the courage to persevere had it not been for the example of my companion's constancy and self-abnegation in the work. His imperturbable good humor and optimism in the face of difficulties were a perpetual inspiration.

When the first tiny building was finished, with a capacity, if I remember rightly, of only twenty-seven beds, and the Sisters had arrived and taken charge, Dr. Kober's sympathy and assistance were unfailing. The equipment of the operating room was his gift, the forerunner of his larger benefactions in the same line when the greater buildings were added. He recognized in the good Sisters kindred spirits to his own. Their lives of heroic self devotion without hope of earthly reward mirrored his ideal. Their Superior, Sister Pauline, to whom the Hospital owes much of its success and present prosperity, always found in him a faithful friend, a wise adviser and a most devoted helper.

I leave to others to speak of Dean Kober's eminence in his profession and his chosen specialty, of his researches in the statistics of the drug habit and other fields of Preventive Medicine, of his activity and influence in various scientific societies and particularly as President of the Association of American Medical Colleges, of his precision and unalterable patience as a professor, of his wide interest in civic and philanthropic enterprises and most important of all, his wise and tactful administration as Dean of the Medical Faculty of Georgetown University. In my humble judgment, in the whole record of the activities of his seventy years no item will stand out more prominently than his creative and sustaining work for the Georgetown University Hospital.

But greater than all that Dr. Kober has done is what he is! A soul of crystalline sincerity, a modesty and self-effacement betokening true humility, yet a courage that faints at no obstacles, a heart overflowing with kindliness and love toward every human being—all these united to a mind of clear scientific vision and habits of patient and persistent labor—that according to my analysis is the constituent formula of Dr. Kober's character— and a rare and precious combination it is! I may even go a step further, and without, I hope, trespassing upon precincts that ought to be sacred, may say that his profoundly religious spirit is a worthy example to men of Natural Science

and a proof that the most exalted knowledge of natural phenomena and principles may and ought to dwell with the simplest and most intense faith. His soul is too wide to harbor any narrow bigotry. Sturdy Lutheran as he is in profession, his heart is so truly Catholic that he might easily be mistaken for a Jesuit in disguise!

This celebration is in no sense a farewell! I do not indeed expect to be present at the exercises on Dr. Kober's ninetieth birthday, but only because long before that happy event, I shall have passed to a better world, where doctors are unnecessary and death shall be no more! But I do confidently expect that God will grant me the privilege of seeing from the eternal hills my old friend still hale and hearty and radiating light, goodness and happiness as he has done in the first seventy years of his existence!

To Dr. Kober

(On the celebration of his seventieth anniversary.)

To minister, to ease the restless pain;
To bring to fevered spirit courage new;
To keep a comrade's silent vigil through
The aging hours, as life slips back again
Into Eternity; to head the train
Of new-born's heralds in the morning dew
Of life's first rosy infant dawn; to view
With charity man's boasted strength so vain;

All this, and threescore honored years and ten
Are yours, each graven with the artist's care,
In finest lines of kindness toward men
To leave on ev'ry heart an impress rare.
A greeting? Aye! Let salutations pay
All mankind's debt on this, the Doctor's Day!

EDWARD F. MACK, A.B., '20.

Geo. M. Kober;

Born March 28, 1850.

Dean Georgetown University Medical School June, 1901.

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

Address Before the Georgetown Clinical Society

JAMES A. GANNON, M.D., '06.
Associate Clinical Professor of Surgery, Georgetown Medical School.

It is particularly fitting that the Georgetown Clinical Society, which is composed of his former students, should meet on this occasion to remind Dr. Kober of the love and esteem we have for him. He will receive many honors this month at the hands of his other scientific and civil associates but he will hear no words of congratulation which are more sincere, more heartfelt than those we extend to him tonight.

We meet to celebrate his seventieth birthday; to show him how glad we are that the completion of three score and ten years of useful life finds him in the prime of mental and physical vigor; to remark how lightly the hand of time rests on his shoulders.

We sometimes speak of one who has passed seventy years as old, but Dr. Kober is not old. If ripe judgment born of much experience is a sign of age, if vast knowledge caused by much study and industry is another sign; if high esteem and great reputation among his fellow men, the result of devotion to duty and contributions to scientific literature, constitute another sign—then indeed Dr. Kober is not seventy but one hundred and fifty years old.

I met Dr. Kober eighteen years ago when I enrolled as a student at the Medical School. When I reached my third year I took his course in Hygiene. At the close of this year we had our first misunderstanding. This is how it came about. I figured that by paying close attention and taking careful notes, it would not be necessary for me to purchase a text book on Hygiene and I did not purchase one. My omission somehow came to Dr. Kober's notice and I was unable to explain that it was due to the clarity of his lectures and to the economic principles with which he sometimes punctuated his remarks. During my more or less stormy career as an interne at Georgetown Hospital, I had occasion more than once to be guided by his good advice thereby preventing, I am sure, the world having another proof that youth and wisdom are seldom companions. Many times, since I have been in practice I have sought his good advice which has always been sound and worth following.

His scientific attainments are many, but as I see Dr. Kober, he would be great without even these, for he possesses a virtue which is too rarely found in this world—charity. Most of the Ten Commandments are written around

this virtue and he who possesses it to the extent Dr. Kober has shown, is great if he has no other attainments to his credit. His whole life has been one of sacrifice and devotion to his fellow man. Since his retirement from the army, his activities have been toward making the world a better place in which to live. His Medical School and Hospital affiliations, his membership on the Board of Charities and on various commissions for the betterment of morality and living conditions of less fortunate men, his numerous contributions to scientific literature and his legacy to posterity in the form of a volume on Industrial Diseases—have all brought work and worry and responsibility and practically no financial reward. It has been a matter of enthusiastic comment, especially among his former students, that, although Dr. Kober has been out of active practice for many years, he has kept up with present day medical accomplishment. At medical meetings we have all heard him bring out some point in the discussion which was unknown to the essayist who had given much time and thought to the preparation of his paper. Often when his day's work is done and he would be doing more justice to himself by resting at home, he can be found attending smokers and meetings where medical students congregate, instructing them, advising them, inspiring them. He takes great pride in those he calls his boys and I doubt if there is a graduate of the Medical School since Dr. Kober has been Dean whose record is not known to him. There are few members of the faculty who cannot recall the interest he has had in each member of the graduating class. When final examinations were being held, who cannot remember the moisture in his eye and the emotion in his voice when he discovered the failure of some student to attain sufficient credits to allow him to receive his diploma?

Dr. Kober, we have all been of those medical students to whom you have devoted your life; and as children appreciate their parents more after childhood is past, so with the passing years we have learned to appreciate you more. We feel that we are better doctors and better citizens because of your influence.

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

In closing I desire to read a short verse by Leigh Hunt, which is familiar to most of you, and which could be written with truth about Dr. Kober.

Abou Ben Adhem (may his tribe increase!)
Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace,
And saw within the moonlight in his room,
Making it rich, and like a lily in bloom,
An angel writing in a book of gold:—
Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold,
And to the Presence in the room he said,
"What writest thou?"—The vision raised its head,
And, with a look made of all sweet accord,
Answered, "The names of those who love the Lord."
"And is mine one?" said Abou. "Nay, not so,"
Replied the angel. Abou spoke more low,
But cheerily still; and said, "I pray thee, then,
Write me as one who loves his fellow men."

The Angel wrote and vanished. The next night
It came again with a great wakening light,
And showed the names whom love of God had blessed,
And lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest.

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

To A Physician

(Dr. George M. Kober, who recently celebrated his 70th birthday, began his career as a physician in 1873.)

Almost a half century ago
He girded on his armour for the fight
Against the creeping hordes of Pain and Woe,
Almost a half century ago,
The petaled plains of ease, bedecked and bright,
Allured him not, he faced creation's blight
And girded on his armour for the fight
Almost a half century ago.

When the bright torch he reared aloft is dim
Many a lip will linger o'er his name
Breathing a million blessings over him,
When the bright torch he reared aloft is dim.
Not scrivened gold, nor the glad cry of Fame
Shall serve his humble greatness to proclaim:
Many a lip will linger o'er his name
When the bright torch he raised aloft is dim.

JOHN A. FOOTE, M.D., '06.

PRAECAISE

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GEO MACKER

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THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS
ON TVBERCVLOSIS
WASHINGTON 1908
AWARDS THIS MEDAL TO
THE TVBERCVLOSIS HOSPITAL
OF WASHINGTON
DESIGNED BY
G.M. KOBER

A Tribute to Dr. Kober

FROM A PRE-MEDICAL STUDENT.

Three score and ten hath lightly laid its crown
Of fruitful toil upon thy thoughtful brow,
For you Heaven's "Well Done" comes softly down
To approve thy task and us with hope endow.
You sought to make life a smoother path for all
To tread its uncertain way with steady stride
And ever quick to heed Pain's gasping call
To ease her ache and leave "good cheer" beside.

So upon this day so frought with tender charm
We send aloft this prayer for you our friend,
"May God e'er keep your love and friendship warm
For those to whom your heritage will descend.
Ripe tho unplucked! Fearless thy God to face!
When plucked thou art, we ask, but to fill thy place.

THOMAS E. MATTINGLY.

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

Werth

Wer so wie Du in einem reichen Leben
Des Wissens und des Herzens ganze Kraft
Dem Wohl der Menschheit völlig hingegeben,
Wer redlich, unermüdlich hat geschafft,
Wer in den Dienst barmherz'ger Nächstenliebe
Sein Wollen und sein Können hat gestellt:
Der sorgte selbst, dass ihm beständig bliebe
Die Achtung und die Ehre dieser Welt.

Aus deutschem Stamm in dieses Land gekommen
Hast Du, von Deiner Rasse Geist belebt,
Dem hehren Ziel, das Du Dir vorgenommen,
In treuem Pflichtbewusstsein zugestrebt.
Dies Pflichtbewusstsein, Deiner Väter Erbe,
Hat immer Dich den rechten Weg gelehrt
Und Du hast es, war auch der Weg oft herbe,
Dem neuen Land als treuer Sohn bewährt.

Ein Lehrer bist Du tausenden gewesen
Und tausende hat Deine Kunst geheilt,
Not und Gebreste machtest Du genesen,
Wo immer Segen stiftend Du geweilt.
War je ein Leid, das Dir nicht sprach zum Herzen?
Je eine Not, wo Du nicht halfest gern?
Gabst Du Dein Bestes nicht, zu lindern Schmerzen?
Was menschlich ist, stand nie und nie Dir fern.

So stehst in Deiner siebzig Jahre Kranze
Du heut geehrt, bewundert und geliebt,
So krönt den Ehrentag mit hellem Glanze
Ein Glück, das lauter ist und ungetrübt:
Denn blickest auf die Summe Deines Lebens
Am heut'gen Tage prüfend Du zurück,
Dann siehst Du, dass Du lebtest nicht vergebens,
Und das zu seh'n ist seltnes Menschenglück.

Gewidmet vom Kurt Voelkner am 28. März 1920

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

Editorial

Georgetown College Journal, March, 1920.
JOSEPH R. MICKLER, JR., A.B., '20.

To few men is it given to live their allotted span of three score and ten years in devotion to duty and in service to humanity, and finally to find themselves at the end of those years with their sacrifices appreciated and their services recognized. History is replete with the lives of men whose praises were not chanted until many years after they had been laid to rest in the unbreakable silence of the tomb; where, we may believe, the sound of chanting voices is not heard. But of the men who win acknowledgments of their good works before they pass on, one hears but seldom. It is the way of fame, to place a wreath of laurel on a piece of dull, cold marble; leaving the living brow uncrowned.

So that a man who receives a generous meed of earthly glory from his contemporaries, and that, too, without any of his own seeking, must of necessity have that about him which stamps him as worthy. I do not know George Martin Kober in person; I feel that I do not have to. I know his works and I know his friends, and I feel that by knowing them I have known him as well. They both declare that if ever living man was well worthy to wear the mantle of highest honors, he is that man. With their testimony I am gladly content; since his works and his friends are equally insistent in compelling admiration for the man whose seventy years have been spent in generous service to mankind.

Seventy years! Years crowded with episode, warmed with altruism, lighted with courage; gliding years, moving now slowly, now swiftly, as their burdens were light or heavy, but gliding always onward to the fulfillment of their glorious promise. And now, to the eyes of youth, it seems that at last he, George Martin Kober, must surely have attained the completest fulfillment. Loved, honored, respected, and secure in the consciousness of work well done, can he ask more of life than life has already given? To be sure, he must have met with withering disenchantments, undergone a vast amount of mental drubbing during the eventful years. The vigorous man is destined to a multitude of disappointments while he lives. But from the pleasant security of seventy years must not these appear trivial, must not the whole voyage of his life seem to have been taken under rose-colored skies? In

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Washington, D. C. March 28th, 1

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ON HYGIENE AND
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retrospect, life must appear a most joyful thing indeed. Surely Emerson must have erred greatly to suppose that "Life only avails, not the having lived." Much more pleasing is the philosophy of Stevenson on the same matter. He says: "To lead an adventurous and honorable youth, and to settle when the time arrives, into a green and smiling age, is to be a good artist in life, and to deserve well of yourself and your neighbor."

This, to me, must always be the goal of human endeavor. How George Martin Kober views it, one cannot say. He has given much to the world in seventy years; more, indeed, than the world can or is likely to repay in seven times seventy years. He has lived in a way that can bring him few regrets, and has well earned repose in this life and in the next.

"In the downhill of life, when I find I'm declining,
May my fate no less fortunate be!"

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY.
School of Medicine.

Washington, D. C., March 28th, 1920.

DR. GEORGE M. KOBER,
Worthy Dean:

The Students of the Sophomore Class present, most respectfully, their heartiest greetings upon this, the occasion of the Seventieth Anniversary of your birth.

That the unfathomable future may bless you with a liberal share of lifes' rarest treasures; that our Alma Mater may have the good fortune of a manifold repetition of the years of thy faithful stewardship, is the ardent with of a grateful class.

JAMES J. O'ROURKE,
WALTER E. MCCAWLEY,
VINCENT R. REILLY,
FRANK J. RUSSELL.
Committee.

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Washington 1912

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

Medical Society of the District of Columbia

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY FOR A MEETING HELD NOV. 3, 1919:

"Dr. William Gerry Morgan called attention to the fact that Dr. George M. Kober's 70th birthday will occur March 28, 1920, and suggested that the Society should take cognizance thereof. Ordered: that it be recommended to the Society that a committee be appointed to arrange for a dinner to be held on the occasion of Dr. Kober's 70th birthday as an evidence of the Society's esteem."

The foregoing recommendation was adopted by the Society at its meeting held November 5, 1919.

H. C. MACATEE, Recording Secretary.

1317 Connecticut Avenue,
Washington, D. C.
November 17, 1919.

DR. GEORGE M. KOBER,
1819 Q Street, N.W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Kober:

It having come to the knowledge of the Medical Society, through the report of the Executive Committee, that you are about to attain the seventieth anniversary of your birth on March 28, 1920, a resolution was offered and unanimously passed, that a dinner be given in your honor in celebration of this anniversary.

It is indeed rare that one reaches the three score and ten mark in life; rare for one to possess such unusual distinction in the science of medicine, sociology and civic virtues. The Medical Society in honoring you wishes to honor itself, and we trust that you will accept our invitation.

The committee finds that March 28, 1920, falls on Sunday, and we therefore request that you designate the date nearest that day that you desire us to celebrate.

Sincerely,
The Committee:
DR. C. W. RICHARDSON, *Chairman.*
DR. S. S. ADAMS.
DR. W. M. BARTON.

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

1819 Q Street,
Washington, D. C.
November 22, 1919.

To: DR. CHARLES W. RICHARDSON
DR. SAMUEL S. ADAMS
DR. W. M. BARTON, *Committee.*

My dear friends:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst. informing me that in accordance with a resolution adopted by the Medical Society of the District of Columbia, a dinner will be given in my honor in celebration of the seventieth anniversary of my birth.

In response to your communication, I beg that you will convey to the Society the assurance of my heart-felt appreciation of the distinguished honor conferred upon me, and of the gratification it gives me to know that my conduct has received the approval of my professional friends and colleagues.

Since your Committee finds that March 28, 1920, falls on Sunday, I would suggest that either Saturday, March 27, or Monday, March 29, may be designated for the date of the dinner.

Very sincerely yours,
GEORGE M. KOBER.

COMPLIMENTARY DINNER TO DR. GEORGE M. KOBER IN COMMEMORATION OF HIS SEVENTIETH BIRTHDAY.

A Complimentary Dinner will be given to Doctor George M. Kober on his seventieth birthday by the Medical Society of the District of Columbia and other Scientific and Civic organizations, at Rauscher's, on March 27th, 1920, at 7.30 P. M. Dr. Kober is well-known, respected and admired for his untiring interest in all organizations for the promotion of benevolent projects, and the betterment of social conditions in this community, and undoubtedly a large number will wish to honor him on this occasion. The cost per plate will be five dollars ($5.00), and the Committee respectfully requests that you send your subscriptions as early as possible to its Chairman that plans may be fully completed.

CHARLES W. RICHARDSON, M.D., *Chairman,*
1317 Connecticut Ave., Washington, D. C.
SAMUEL S. ADAMS,
W. M. BARTON,
For the Medical Society.
L. O. HOWARD,
For the Allied Scientific Societies.

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

1850 1920

Dinner

to

George Martin Kober, M. D., LL. D.

In Celebration of His

70th Birthday

by

The Medical Society of the District of Columbia
and Allied Scientific Societies and
Civic Oganizations

at Rauscher's

Saturday, March 27, 1920, at 7.30 p. m.,

Washington, D. C.

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

Addresses of Congratulation

DR. FRANCIS R. HAGNER
President Medical Society, D. C.

DR. JOHN A. FOOTE
Toastmaster

Speakers

DR. WILLIAM C. WOODWARD
Representing the Medical Society, D. C.

MR. WILLIAM H. HOLMES
Representing the Anthropological Society

MR. HENRY B. F. MACFARLAND
Representing the Civic Organizations

MR. ROBERT S. WOODWARD
Representing the Washington Academy of Sciences

DR. HARVEY W. WILEY
Representing the Cosmos Club

DR. CHARLES W. RICHARDSON
Presentation

DR. GEORGE M. KOBER
Response

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

List of Guests

At the dinner given by the Medical Society of the District of Columbia and Allied Scientific Societies and Civic Organizations.

Acker, Dr. George N.
Adams, Dr. Roy D.
Adams, Dr. Samuel S.
Adams, Mrs. Annette A.
Ailes, Milton E.
Arnold, Dr. J. S.
Arthur, Col. Wm. H., Med. Corps.
Atkinson, Dr. Wade H.
Baldwin, William H.
Balloch, Dr. E. A.
Barker, Dr. L. F.
Barton, Dr. Wilfred M.
Bauer, Dr. Louis A.
Behrend, Dr. Edwin B.
Bell, Alexander Graham
Bell, Charles J.
Berliner, Mr. and Mrs. Emile
Bernton, Dr. Harry S.
Borden, Dr. W. C.
Boswell, Dr. A. W.
Bowen, Dr. W. Sinclair
Branson, Bruce S.
Brett, Col. Lloyd M.
Brickenstein, J. H.
Brownlow, Commissioner Louis
Bryan, Dr. J. H.
Bryan, W. B.
Bryant, Mr and Mrs. Arthur L.
Butler, Dr. W. K.
Call, Arthur D.
Casteel, Dr. F. A.
Clark, Allen C.
Clark, Appleton, P., Jr.
Coale, Dr. Edith S.
Cole, Dr. John T.
Constas, Dr. John
Cook, Dr. G. Wythe
Copeland, Dr. Edgar P.
Coville, F. V.
Creeden, Rev. John B., S.J.
Crosson, Dr. Henry J.
Davidson, Dr. E. Y.
Delacey, Judge William H.
Digges, Dr. J. H.
Duehring, Dr. Frank E.
Duffey, Dr. H. Clarence
Dugan, Dr. C. L.
Easton, Dr. Charles D.
Edson, Mr. and Mrs. John Joy
Einhorn, Dr. Max
Eliot, Dr. Johnson
Eliot, Dr. Llewellyn
Ellis, Dr. George R.
Eynon, W. J.
Fadeley, C. E.
Farrand, Dr. Livingston
Fenning, Frederick A.
Fletcher, Alice E.
Foley, Dr. Thomas M.
Folkmar, Dr. Elnora C.
Foote, Dr. John A.
Foster, Dr. Romulus A.
Fowler, Dr. H. A.
Fowler, Dr. W. C.
Fox, Albert F.
Foye, Dr. A. Francis
French, Dr. William G.
Friedenwald, Dr. Julius
Gannon, Dr. James A.
Gans, Isaac
Garrison, Dr. Fielding H., U. S. A.
Gasch, Herman E.
Glose, Rev. Joseph, S.J.
Goodman, Dr. William R.
Gordon, General David Stuart, U. S. A.
Gore, James H.
Griffith, Dr. Charles I.
Grosvenor, Gilbert H.
Gude, William F.
Gwynn, Dr. William C.
Hagner, Dr. Francis R.
Hall, Dr. A. J.
Hamilton, George E.
Hamilton, Dr. Ralph A.
Hammett, Dr. Charles M.
Hatfield, Dr. Charles J.

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

Hazen, Dr. Henry H.
Hemler, Dr. Wm. F.
Herbst, Mrs. and Mrs. William P.
Herbst, Miss
Herrmann, Mr. and Mrs. J. Phillip
Heurich, Chris.
Hickling, Dr. D. P.
Hilkemeier, Charles
Hird, Dr. John D.
Holden, Dr. R. C.
Holm. Dr. H. C.
Holmes, Professor W. H.
Hough, Dr. Walter
Hough, Dr. William H.
Howard, Dr. L. O.
Hurtt, Dr. Harry
Ireland, Surg.-Gen. Merritt W., U. S. A.
Jackson, Dr. V. B.
Johnson, Dr. Joseph Taber
Johnson, Dr. Loren B. T.
Johnson, Dr. Louis A.
Johnson, Dr. Paul B.
Jones-Taylor, Dr. Louise
Judd, Neil M.
Kelley, Dr. J. T.
Knopf, Dr. S. A.
Kober, Miss Gretchen
Koons, John A.
Krechting Dr. Wilhelm E. H.
Lamb, Dr. D. S.
Lamb, Dr. Isabel
LaFlesche, Francis
Langworthy, Dr. Charles F.
Leclerc, Mrs. Lizzie
LeComte, Dr. Ralph M.
Lee, Dr. Thomas S.
Leech, Dr. D. Olin
Leech, Dr. Frank
Lind, Dr. John E.
Link, Mrs. Henry
Lowe, Dr. Thomas F.
McCarthy, Dr. Joseph J.
McCaw, General Wm. D., U. S. A. M. C.
McLaughlin, Dr. T. N.
Macatee, Dr. H. C.
Machen, Dr. Francis S.
Macfarland, Hon. Henry B. F.
Mack, Edward F.
Mackall, Dr. Louis
Manning, Dr. W. J.
Marbury, Dr. Charles C.
Meltzer, Dr. S. J.
Merritt, H. B.
Michelson, Dr. Truman
Mickler, Joseph R., Jr.
Mitchell, Dr. Claude N.
Moran, Dr. John F.
Morgan, Dr. Edward L.
Morgan, Dr. William Gerry
Moore, Charles
Morrison, Dr. Edward L.
Moser, Dr. James M.
Moulden, Dr. W. R.
Murphy, Jerome
Muncaster, Dr. S. B.
Munson, Col. Edward L. U. S. A. M. C.
Neill, Dr. Charles P.
Newsholme, Sir Arthur
Neumann, Felix
Neuman, Dr. Lester
Nevills, Rev. Coleman, S.J.
Nicholay, Miss Helen
Nichols, Dr. H. J.
Nichols, Dr. J. B.
Nichols, Col. A. J., U. S. A. M. C.
Noble, Gen. Robt. E., U. S. A. M. C.
Ong, Dr. Harry A.
O'Donoghue, Dr. John A.
O'Donnell, Dr. William F.
O'Malley, Dr. Mary
Owen, Col. W. O., U. S. A. M. C.
Owens, Dr. S. Logan
Parker, Dr. Henry P.
Pattison, Terrell
Peterson, Dr. George
Pezold, Mathilda
Pfender, Dr. Charles A.
Pratt, W. S.
Raker, Hon. and Mrs. John E.
Ray, A. M.
Reeside, Frank P.
Reeves, Dr. W. P.
Reichelderfer, Dr. L. H.
Rench, Dr. V. B.
Rudolph, Mr. and Mrs. Cuno H.
Richardson, Dr. Charles W.
Safford, Lieut. W. E., U. S. N.
Sage, C. R.

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

Schreiber, Dr. Henry R.
Seibert, Dr. E. R.
Sexton, Dr. R. L.
Shandelle, Rev. Henry J., S.J.
Shugrue, Dr. J. J.
Shute, Dr. D. K.
Silvester, Dr. Richard L.
Skinner, Dr. J. O.
Sowers, Dr. William F.
Spigel, Dr. Harry
Spofford, Florence P.
Stafford, Justice W. P.
Stanton, Dr. W. J.
Sternberg, Mrs. George M.
Stone, Dr. I. S.
Streeter, Dr. Edward C.
Stuart, Dr. Daniel D. V.
Sullivan, Dr. Robert Y.
Sutton, Dr. Richard N.
Taylor, Dr. Bruce L.
Taylor, Dr. L. H.
Tewksbury, Dr. W. D.
Thomas, Dr. Ada R.
Thomas, Dr. John D.
Thompson, Dr. J. Lawn
Tindall, Dr. William
Tondorf, Rev. Francis A., S.J.
Townsend, Dr. J. G., U. S. P. H.
Turpin, Perry B.
Ufford, Mr. and Mrs. Walter S.
Vaughan, Dr. George Tully
Van Schaick, Dr. John, Jr.
Verbrycke, Dr. J. Russell
Walker, Dr. Reginald B.
Walcott, Dr. Charles D.
Wall, Dr. Joseph S.
Walsh, Rev. Edmund, S.J.
Welch, Dr. William H.
Wells, Dr. Walter A.
West, Dr. and Mrs. R. Thomas
White, Dr. Charles S.
White, Dr. William A.
Whitmore, Col. Eugene, U. S. A. M. C.
Wiley, Dr. Harvey W.
Wilmer, Dr. William H.
Wilson, George S.
Willson, Dr. Prentiss
Wolf, Hon. and Mrs Simon
Wollenberg, Dr. and Mrs. R. A.
Woodward, Dr. Robert S.
Woodward, Dr. William C.
Wynkoop, Dr. J. C.
Yarrow, Dr. H. C.
Zehner, Harry

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

Medical Society of the District of Columbia

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY FOR A MEETING HELD NOV. 3, 1919:

"Dr. William Gerry Morgan called attention to the fact that Dr. George M. Kober's 70th birthday will occur March 28, 1920, and suggested that the Society should take cognizance thereof. Ordered: that it be recommended to the Society that a committee be appointed to arrange for a dinner to be held on the occasion of Dr. Kober's 70th birthday as an evidence of the Society's esteem."

The foregoing recommendation was adopted by the Society at its meeting held November 5, 1919.

H. C. MACATEE, Recording Secretary.

1317 Connecticut Avenue,
Washington, D. C.
November 17, 1919.

DR. GEORGE M. KOBER,
1819 Q Street, N.W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Kober:

It having come to the knowledge of the Medical Society, through the report of the Executive Committee, that you are about to attain the seventieth anniversary of your birth on March 28, 1920, a resolution was offered and unanimously passed, that a dinner be given in your honor in celebration of this anniversary.

It is indeed rare that one reaches the three score and ten mark in life; rare for one to possess such unusual distinction in the science of medicine, sociology and civic virtues. The Medical Society in honoring you wishes to honor itself, and we trust that you will accept our invitation.

The committee finds that March 28, 1920, falls on Sunday, and we therefore request that you designate the date nearest that day that you desire us to celebrate.

Sincerely,
The Committee:
DR. C. W. RICHARDSON, *Chairman.*
DR. S. S. ADAMS.
DR. W. M. BARTON.

evening. It has been well said, "You can tell a man from Boston, but you cannot tell him very much."

I take pleasure in introducing an old friend in the person of Dr. William C. Woodward, Health Commissioner of the City of Boston.

Dr. William C. Woodward

Health Commissioner of Boston, Mass.
Representing the Medical Society, District of Columbia.

Mr. President, Our Honored Guest, Ladies and Gentlemen:

My introduction by our genial toastmaster has been most embarrassing to me, but it has relieved me of a large part of the sense of responsibility that previously I had felt. The rules of the evening provide, the toastmaster tells us, that for any failure in the program of the evening, he, and he alone, is resposible. For my shortcomings, therefore, you will please blame the toastmaster. In so far as shortcomings may be absent, I must beg of you to attribute that fact to the inspiration that must come to even the dullest head and the coldest heart, if human at all, on an occasion such as this.

Sitting here among my many friends and associates, I can hardly realize why I should have been introduced as a gentleman from Boston. It is so natural and homelike to be here with you. But then it comes over me that I am no longer physically and bodily one of you, however much I may still be so in spirit, and I feel more deeply indebted even than before for the honor you of the Medical Society of the District of Columbia conferred upon me when you asked me to be your spokesman on this occasion. I am sure the honor comes through no merit of my own, unless it be a merit to esteem and love the society with which I have been so long identified, and to esteem and love our guest, Dr. Kober.

Dr. George Martin Kober was born at Alsfeld, Germany, in 1850, on March 28. In 1867, soon after the close of our Civil War and when he was a mere lad of seventeen, Kober came to the United States, and shortly thereafter entered the army and was assigned to the hospital corps. It was thus that he was put into the way of achieving a boyhood ambition to become a doctor of medicine. His first post of duty was at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, and there he kept the records of the hospital, acted as pharmacist, assisted in minor dressings, and discharged many of the duties of a clinical clerk. His youth and then slight stature, Dr. Kober says, exempted him from most of the

usual duties of an orderly, but I surmise that his mental and moral strength, rather than any physical weakness, procured for him the superior opportunities that came with the duties assigned to him, to advance his knowledge of medicine. At any rate, the unusual qualities of the quiet, sincere, studious German lad attracted the attention of the medical officer at the post, Dr. J. J. B. Wright, and of Mrs. Wright, who thereafter lost no opportunity to help him toward his goal.

Kober remained at Carlisle Barracks until January 10th, 1870, when he received the appointment of Hospital Steward and was then sent to Frankford Arsenal. Either a knowledge of the esteem in which the lad was held at Carlisle Barracks had preceded him to Frankford Arsenal, or else the medical officer at the Arsenal, Dr. Robert Bruce Burns, was as discerning as Dr. Wright, at Carlisle Barracks, had been; for every facility was extended to Kober here as at his former station to enlarge his knowledge of medicine. Frankford Arsenal was near enough Philadelphia to enable him to attend some of the lectures at the medical school of the University of Pennsylvania, then as now one of the leading medical schools in the United States, and by copying the notes taken by a student at the Arsenal who was able to attend regularly, a son of Dr. Burns, Kober was enabled to make substantial progress. Dr. Kober today, with modesty that is quite characteristic, is profuse in his acknowledgment of his obligation to Dr. and Mrs. Wright, and to Dr. Burns, and refers to his good fortune in coming under their guidance, but it is hardly likely that the good fortune came undeserved. It seldom does.

The next step in Kober's advancement toward a medical career, came as an assignment to duty in the Surgeon General's office in Washington, in 1871. So far as the record shows this transfer was merely one of the ordinary changes of post that any man in the army must expect to befall him from time to time. Beneath the surface, however, we must recognize the hand of Providence through the discernment, wisdom, and great-heartedness of Dr. Wright, Dr. Burns, and the other friends in the army who had by that time taken a fancy to the very likable and friendly young Kober, now at the threshold of manhood, and somewhat matured by four years of army life. The medical schools of Washington at that time gave their instruction in the evening, so that an ambitious young man might work during the daylight hours in a government department or elsewhere to earn his livelihood, and devote his evening hours, his holidays, and possibly his Sundays, to study and to clinical instruction. It was hard work, as those of us who have been through it can testify; but

dates, a few incidents of little or no lasting importance in the life of our profession or of the community, a few square feet of earth, a mass of granite—and the life story of the average man has been told. But were I to attempt so to recount the work of Dr. Kober, in order that we might do honor to his life of service, I should certainly fall far short of my obligation as the message-bearer of the Society on this occasion. Dr. Kober is not an average man, or else we would not be here this evening; for to his chosen profession, to the Medical Society, and the community he so diligently serves Dr. Kober has come to be something more than a mere flesh and blood man, something more than a mere series of dates and incidents. He must be studied and appraised rather as an influence—a moral or spiritual influence, if you will—tending constantly toward the enlarging and uplifting of the lives of those with whom he comes into contact: an influence that will continue to stimulate and direct the activities of the Medical Society long after Dr. Kober has been called from the field of his earthly labors—which, pray God, may be an event long delayed.

If you were to ask me to name the secret of Dr. Kober's influence, I would answer first, loyalty, loyalty to an ideal. To the Medical Society—and it is for the Medical Society that I speak—he has been loyal first, loyal last, loyal at all times and above all things. Picture, if you please, the young Kober, just turned twenty-one years, with all the temptations to idleness and pleasure incident to that age, with the burden of daily toil for his livelihood and evening and nightly toil for an education, and yet after his first introduction into the Medical Society, as a guest, never missing a meeting so long as he remained in Washington. Follow him through nearly twenty years of absence, maintaining membership in the Society, without any incentive whatsoever beyond his bare loyalty to it. Then recall him, returning, his place in the medical profession assured and with no intention of practicing medicine, and yet immediately resuming his position in the councils of the Society. How many of us would have done likewise? None, I venture to assert, and not more than a sorry few, I am sure. The record is, I believe, unique in the history of the Society. And after his return, trace his course through the years that followed—always in his place in the deliberations of the Society, and excelled by no one in interest and zeal in its scientific program and professional and public activities, even right up to the present moment as he rounds out his seventieth year. Do you wonder at the esteem and affection of the Medical Society for Dr. Kober?

But loyalty is not a thing that springs up without cause, when and where it will, and it may be well to inquire into the cause for Dr. Kober's loyalty to the Medical Society. We have already seen that his devotion could not have been due to any personal benefit that he might hope to derive, and we may well ask ourselves whether it may not have been due to some distinguishing merit in the Society itself or to the attributes of its members. Although our pride may suffer by the admission, we must admit, it seems to me, that such was not the case; it was Kober, not the Medical Society and not ourselves personally, that developed that spirit of loyalty that has marked his career. If you doubt it, search the long list of physicans admitted to membership since Kober became a member. How many of them have been bound to the Society or to ourselves by any such ties of devotion as has Kober, and yet all have had at least an equal opportunity, and many have had better. Merit there is in the Society and in its members, unmistakable merit, merit of a high order; else the Society would have long since perished. But it takes the exceptional man to find that merit, to analyze and appraise it, to avail of it, and build it up and strengthen it so that others may share in it the better; and Kober was one of those exceptional men. Early in life he came under the influence of an ideal—duty, duty, duty—and he has lived steadfastly up to it; duty to his patients, duty to his fellow physicians, duty to the organized medical profession; duty to his fellow man. The Medical Society was an agency that would fit him to discharge that duty, and it became, therefore, from his student days onward, an object of untiring devotion. He owed it to his profession and to his fellow man, he thought, to keep himself abreast of the advances in the science and art of medicine, and the Medical Society was to him a post-graduate school that enabled him to discharge that obligation.

But the purely scientific and professional advantages to be gained by attendance on the meetings of the Medical Society and by participation in its activities would hardly have bound Kober to the organization as he was bound. There was a human element in the atmosphere of the Society, however, that attracted him, for Kober has always been pre-eminently a lover of his fellow man. Whether that man was the Indian on the plains or in the mountains of the West, a dark-skinned brother in the alleys of Washington, a medical student struggling against odds like those that Kober had met and overcome, or a struggling member of the medical profession, it mattered not. Kober was his friend and brother. The Medical Society afforded a meeting place

where he could come into contact with his fellow physicians, take part in their discussions, share in their joys and successes, sympathize with them in their griefs and failures, and promote the welfare of his chosen profession in the Capital City; and so he threw himself whole-heartedly into its work, administrative, professional, and public. His investigation of typhoid fever in the District in 1889 and again in 1895; his intense and prolonged labor in bringing about the proper filtration of the water supply of Washington; his activity for the improvement of the milk supply; his energy and effort that led ultimately to the establishment of the tuberculosis hospital; his early recognition of gonorrhea and syphilis as presenting grave social problems; his fight in company with General Sternberg, for the improvement of housing conditions; his untiring, self-sacrificing labors as dean of the Medical School of Georgetown University in the interest of medical education in the District of Columbia and throughout the country; his labors in the interest of industrial medicine and sanitation; these mark some of the high points in Kober's professional career. And these, and his indefatigable energy in recording the results of his studies and observations so that others might reap the benefit of them, serve as a measure of a life that has brought honor and distinction on Kober as a physician, a sanitarian, and a philanthropist, and that has added to the credit of the Medical Society, the scene of so much of his labors.

But it is to the human side that we must always recur if we would see the true Kober—always simple, straightforward, honest, friendly, self-forgetting. One of his associates said to me only this afternoon: "I always liked Dr. Kober; he always tells the truth." It is a sad commentary on our present moral standards that a man should be chosen for a friend because he always tells the truth, yet how many of us do. But the observation concerning Dr. Kober was true; he always tells the truth. Who here has ever even so much as suspected him of prevaricating for the sake of policy or expediency, or even of evading or beating about the bush when truth was called for. As must already have become apparent from the picture I have drawn, Dr. Kober is withal a man of profound religious convictions—not in the sense of one who adheres to form or creed but as one in whom the spirit of religion in its very essence lives and breathes and directs and controls his daily life; a man with no religion to talk of and wear on his coat sleeve, but with a religion to live by. In one of our more intimate moments, Dr. Kober told me of a conversation he once had with one of the venerable elders of one of the Indian tribes with whom he came into contact during his life in the Great West—a conversation about the Great Father and his divine control over the affairs

of this life, and about the life to come—and often since then I have had pass before me as I thought of Kober, the young army surgeon and the venerable old Indian, before the camp fire, out under the canopy of the heavens, discussing the eternal truths as we poor mortals, white man and Indian alike, reach out to grasp them. It has been, I believe, his recognition and acknowledgment in his daily life of all mankind as brothers, and of a Divine Providence in the affairs of men, that have made Kober what he is to us today.

Truly, the Medical Society of the District of Columbia has occasion to be proud of George Martin Kober. Truly, it is indebted to him for the work he has done and the influence he has exerted over it. Throughout his professional career he has stood for the best there is in medicine; with Busey, Eliot, and Johnston, with Ford Thompson, and Morgan, and Toner, and a host of others too numerous to mention, in Washington and elsewhere, whose lives have been devoted to the alleviation of the sufferings of mankind and the uplift of the human race. Truly, the Medical Society is but doing itself an honor in acknowledging as it does this evening its indebtedness to Dr. Kober and its esteem and affection for him. Dr. Kober, I pray that you accept from me, therefore, on behalf of the Medical Society, its congratulations on the attainment of this your seventieth birthday. I have been instructed by the Society to acknowledge its indebtedness to you for the work you have done and the influence you have exerted over it. The Society is proud to number you among the very foremost of its members who have brought honor and distinction to it, at home and throughout the land. And it is the prayer of the Society that you may long be spared in your life of service to your fellow men to enjoy the fruits of your labors and to live in the understanding and appreciation of the great esteem and love that we of the Medical Society bear toward you.

The Toastmaster—Introducing Professor William H. Holmes.

One of Dr. Kober's attributes is thoroughness. This is true of his scholarship as well as of his work. We have long known him as a philanthropist, but he is equally well known as an anthropologist. Dr. Kober loves his fellow-man so well that he is even interested in his natural history. He has been a member of the Anthropological Society of Washington for many years and is a former president of that body. Many members of the Anthropological Society are here tonight and they have chosen to speak for them a former president of the Local Society who is internationally known as a scientist. He has been president of the Washington Academy of Sciences,

of the Cosmos Club and is the directing force of the National Academy of Art and the Anthropological Section of the National Museum. It gives me pleasure to introduce Mr. William H. Holmes.

Professor William H. Holmes.

Head Curator Department of Anthropology, U. S. National Museum.

Representing the Anthropological Society.

I am greatly honored and greatly pleased to be accorded the privilege of saying a word on the occasion of the seventieth anniversary of the appearance of Dr. George M. Kober upon the world stage and to be asked to represent the Anthropological Society of Washington in doing homage to its president on the thirty-third anniversary of its organization.

Dr. Kober's career has been a long, an arduous and a most honorable one, and at 70 he is still in the foremost rank of the advancing columns of science, education and humanization; while about him are a multitude of the younger generation who have grown up under his influence and who are, in turn, pressing forward into new fields, profiting always by his experience and inspired by his example.

There are those present who have a much more intimate knowledge of the Doctor's professional career than I claim and they will doubtless be heard from, and I am thus tempted, at the risk of introducing myself unduly into the story, to recall certain coincidental linkings of his career and mine during the nearly half century of our association with the national service.

In 1871, two young fellows reached Washington and began their life work; the one from the valley of the Rhine, the other from the American Rhine—the Ohio. Both at once found employment; the one in Georgetown University and the other in the Smithsonian Institute. Five years later, while the one was acting as surgeon with the military expedition against hostile Indians in southeastern Nevada, the other, in charge of the San Juan division of Survey of the Territories, was just across the border in Arizona having serious trouble with the treacherous Piutes. Whilst the one, during his service in Nevada, turned his attention toward the physical characteristics of the tribes and to the study and collection of their skeletal remains, the other, as a result of his work among the cliff dwellings of the Mesa Verde country, turned his attention from the field of geology to that of archeology and finally to that of anthropology.

It happened further that the great collection of skeletal remains of the Indian tribes, to which the one contributed while on duty as surgeon in the field, which later was assembled in the Army Medical Museum, was, through the agency of the other, transferred to the United States National Museum, leading thus to the establishment of the Division of Physical Anthropology and to the selection of Dr. Ales Hrdlicka as Curator. This was in due course followed by the founding of the *Journal of Physical Anthropology* of which Dr. Kober is an associate editor; and the two lives have thus come again in touch, for while the one as President of the Anthropological Society of Washington is here on his seventieth anniversary to receive the commendation of a multitude of friends, the other is here to hand him as a token of their esteem a special copy of the *Journal* which both, under the direct instrumentality of Dr. Hrdlicka, were instrumental in founding.

To you, sir, on behalf of the Anthropological Society of Washington—a society to which you have belonged for many years and which you have honored by becoming its president, I have to say that we are especially gratified to have this opportunity of further manifesting our appreciation of your services to the society, to the country, and to the nation, and especially of expressing our admiration for the qualities of mind and heart which have so endeared you to all.

The Toastmaster—Introducing the Hon. Henry B. F. Macfarland.

No one has had a more keen interest in the health of this community than Dr. Kober. Many of his sanitary investigations were begun primarily to help local conditions. It is only fitting that the civic and economic associations of the city should have representation at this meeting and have voice as well as presence at this gathering. The gentleman who will next address you is so identified with affairs of the District of Columbia that he has become almost a godfather to this orphan community. Speaking for the District of Columbia is no new experience for him. In 1900, he delivered the official address at the White House of the National Capital Centennial. At the Buffalo Exposition, the St. Louis Exposition and the Jamestown Exposition he was the chosen orator for the District Day Exercises. For ten years he was chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia, and his interest in local affairs has never lessened. I take great pleasure in introducing the Hon. Henry B. F. Macfarland.

ORIGINAL FROM

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

Hon. Henry B. F. Macfarland

Formerly President of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia
Representing the Civic Organizations, District of Columbia.

Aristotle said that a city was a place where men work together for noble ends. That would be an ideal city. But in every city there are men who are working together for noble ends, men who are willing to make sacrifices that they may give service. Washington is rich in such men and equally rich in women of the same spirit and devotion. No other city surpasses it in this respect. The charge so frequently made that there is lack of public spirit here and therefore lack of self-sacrificing service of the public is absolutely false. One value of such an occasion as this is that it enables us to give the lie to such a charge. So we are honoring our city by honoring our guest, for he is typical of the civic patriots who make the most of opportunity in the service of the national capital. They have the satisfaction of knowing, as in this case, that what they do here is seen all over the country by those who are looking for examples of civic service and that they benefit not only Washington, but the United States. Sometimes this is said to be a thankless task. It is often so. But we ought to give thanks not only as reward, but as encouragement. "Our praises are our wages" and men are working for them as for no other wages. Therefore tonight we heartily thank Dr. Kober for his service to our community and to our country through its capital.

For thirty years, Dr. Kober has been identified with practically every movement for social welfare of the national capital. He has been an example to those who, retired from active life, come here to live. He recognized at once his obligation to the community. With his sense of duty, he could not be a parasite. Ever since he came to Washington, he has been active in public service.

He became a member of the Board of Managers of the Associated Charities in 1895, one of his first public efforts here and has been ever since faithful to the duties of that office as a member of the Executive and other standing committees and in the line of all his efforts to promote thrift particularly active through the agency of the Committee on Provident Plans.

In 1906, he was appointed by President Roosevelt a member of the Board of Charities. He has served continuously as a member of the Committee on Medical Charities. He designed the Tuberculosis Hospital which was opened

in 1908 on the Georgia Avenue tract which the Commissioners had acquired for a municipal hospital. The Sixth International Congress on Tuberculosis held in Washington in 1908 awarded him a medal for the design of this hospital. He was a pioneer in the campaign against tuberculosis, one of the founders and always a leader in the local Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis and a leader also in the National Association of which he was president in 1915.

President Roosevelt in 1907, appointed him a member of the Presidents' Homes Commission. He was chairman of the Committee on Social Betterment and as such prepared monographs on Industrial Hygiene and Social Betterment, published in 1908 as Senate Document No. 644. One of the founders of the Washington Sanitary Improvement Company, organized in 1897, and also of the Washington Sanitary Housing Company, organized in 1904, he served for years as secretary and latterly for a number of years as president of both companies.

He has been a member and active worker in the Monday Evening Club, the Civic Center, Social Hygiene Association and Playground Association. He has endowed scholarships for excellence in Domestic Economy in the Public Schools.

But then I fail to enumerate all about this model citizen of the National Capital; and after all it is the spirit in which these services have been rendered, rather than the quality and quantity of the service that was given, of which we think first and most tonight. There are men in Washington who get discouraged because they have no political opportunity in the District of Columbia.. They say we are not citizens of the District of Columbia, we have none of the political duties of the District of Columbia; why should we care? Why should we take any interest in the affairs of our city?

The time will come, I believe, when we shall have national representation in the Senate, the House, and Electoral College, and we shall have full scope for our political talent and activity when it will be no longer possible for our friend from Britain to smile as a reminder that we fought the Revolutionary War for the principle that "Taxation without Representation is Tyranny."

But until that time comes, and it may be distant, we shall have constantly before us the common task of the common citizen of any community. And if we have the spirit of Doctor Kober we shall do that task with the zest, the enthusiasm, the thoroughness, and therefore with the success, which has brought us all here tonight in affection and admiration.

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

The Toastmaster—Introducing Dr. Robert S. Woodward.

Several years before Dr. Kober was born, a Scotch immigrant lad began to work in a mill near Alleghany Pennsylvania, at a salary of $1.20 a week. Last year this boy died after having given away to various philanthropies over $300,000,000. One of the most important of these benefactions, the Carnegie Institution of Washington, was founded in 1905. Great difficulty was experienced in finding a suitable head for this new type of research institution, until the governing body discovered their ideal in a famous research worker who was at that time head of the Department of Pure Science of Columbia University. Under the care and direction of this eminent scientist the notable achievements of the Carnegie Institute of Washington have been accomplished. No one could be better qualified to speak for the scientific societies of Washington—included in the Washington Academy of Sciences than Dr. Woodward.

Writing his acceptance of the committee's invitation, he said: "You can count on me to help sound the praises of our colleague and to abuse him appropriately for his delay in joining the septuagenarians."

I take pleasure in introducing Dr. Robert S. Woodward, President of the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

Dr. Robert S Woodward

President of the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

Representing the Washington Academy of Sciences.

It is a rare and a happy privilege accorded us tonight to celebrate the attainment to the ranks of the septuagenarians of our friend and colleague and coadjutor in all good works, Dr. Kober. It is a special personal privilege, since, having preceded him by many months, nearly a whole year, indeed, in arriving at the proverbial three-score-and-ten epoch, I am thereby permitted to patronize him a little and to tell you in his presence of the high esteem in which we all hold him. It is a special source of relief also at this time to turn from the turmoil of the affairs of a sadly shattered, if not wrecked, world to a consideration of the altruistic labors and achievements of our versatile, unpretentious, indefatigable and always effective associate, Dr. Kober.

The value of a man to society is measured by the work he accomplishes. This may be either of immediate or of future benefit to our race. The work

of Dr. Kober is conspicuous in both these respects; he has not only sought to remedy existing ills but to prevent their recurrence and to forestall the development of new ills. His vision comprehends at once the past, the present, and the future. He has proved himself to possess both the insight and the foresight of a prophet in the best sense of the word. His activities in the promotion of sound sanitation, from its foundation up, and his preaching and practice in right living make him one of the leaders of progressive pathology.

But I presume the best service he has given to society is that rendered as Dean of the Medical Faculty of Georgetown University. Having had some experience in the business of a deanship and allied occupations, I am disposed to bow in admiration to any man who can serve a faculty for twenty years in such a capacity. A dean has a difficult and often thankless task. It is his duty to stand between the conservative body of trustees, or governors, on the one hand, and the commonly impetuous members of the faculty on the other hand. It is his duty to recognize facts and to secure the working relations of reciprocity between these two groups. His capacity and reputation are always under strain and often in peril. Only men with sound digestion and a lively sense of humor and proportion can survive.

In Dr. Kober's case, however, the indispensable relation of reciprocity just referred to have been furnished in high degree I mistake not, by the university and by the faculty he serves. I am an outsider, as you are well aware, and may not pretend to know much about Georgetown University. Nevertheless, I began making observations on this academic establishment more than thirty years ago, when I had the good fortune to become acquainted with Father Hagen, then in charge of the University Observatory and now (and for years past) in charge of the Vatican Observatory in Rome. It was plain that a fine, high spirit and practice prevailed at the University then and it has become plainer and more impressive as the years have passed.

Naturally, in recent years I have heard more of the medical college and of the Georgetown Hospital than of other branches of the University. As a man grows older and more and more in need of repairs, precaution requires him to contemplate the beneficent provision now made in our leading hospitals for bodily derangements. It has been my privilege also to know intimately of the skillful and the merciful treatment accorded at the Hospital to a number of close friends, friends ranging through all walks of life.

We have not met on this occasion to moralize. It is an occasion rather for felicitation and for good fellowship. I may be pardoned, however, for

recalling your attention to the principles for which colleges, universities and other altruistic establishments stand. They are the principles which have survived throughout the ages. They have flourished even amid the ruins of empires. They are espoused, upheld and effectively applied by only a relatively small number of representatives of our race. There is much evidence in contemporary events to indicate that such representatives are now needed as never before. All hail, therefore, to Dr. Kober and men of his kind! Let us welcome him as a sage of seventy but indulge the hope that he will long remain young.

The Toastmaster—Introducing Dr. Harvey W. Wiley.

A much traveled visitor to Washington during the war period, who was a guest at the Cosmos Club, said that he had never before seen so many distinguished men regularly assembled under one roof. Modesty is a virtue which no toastmaster should possess, so I will have to find some other reason for not telling you of the high standard of membership in this club—besides there are many members of the club here tonight who might perhaps blush. It will be no exaggeration, however, to say that to have been president of this famous organization implies a greater degree of scholarship and achievement than is represented by the highest academic honor in the gift of any of the universities. It is fitting that a former president of the club should speak of Dr. Kober's connection with it. This gentleman in writing his acceptance said: "I shall be glad to speak after the dinner and tell him what a boy who was six years old when he was born thinks of this callow youth."

You will recognize the writer when I tell you that he is "The foremost authority on the chemistry of foods," and the only table he has not made absolutely safe is the peace table. Dr. Harvey Wiley really needs no introduction.

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley

Director of Bureau of Foods, Sanitation and Health.

Representing the Cosmos Club.

Mr. Symposiarch:

In your letter which I received in regard to this celebration, I was told that I was to represent the Cosmos Club. Now, fortunately, the day has passed when I can represent the Cosmos Club and I doubt if there is any living person who could represent that remarkable aggregation of intelligence,

learning, philosophy, pathology and patriotism. I shall not attempt to speak for the club, but what I say shall be from my own heart.

I have known Dr. Kober for nearly a third of a century. I am inclined to bestow upon him the appellation "right man." I have had some opportunity to ascertain Dr. Kober's attitude on many great problems affecting human welfare and I have never known him to be on the wrong side. You may be interested in knowing how I reached this decision. It is a perfectly simple method which any of you can adopt. In every one of these questions to which I refer Dr. Kober has been on my side. I have not sounded him yet on Albert Einstein's theory respecting the mental delinquency of Isaac Newton, but I have no doubt when he does make up his mind on that point he will be right, much as Mr. Newton might protest. I am free to confess also that I do not know his attitude on the League of Nations, but I have great faith in my belief that when he does chance to express himself you will find him again occupying the same old position. I will urge him, however, if he desires to be recorded in the matter before the funeral takes place, that he might do well to tell his patient just where he stands now. Almost everybody feels like saying a good word for a corpse.

What I recall with most delight and pleasure in my association with the guest of the evening is the great fight that we put up for the Pure Food and Drug Law. Dr. Kober was always to be had on demand. In the 25 years in which this legislation was considered before the Committees of Congress, Dr. Kober was always an interested and helpful attendant. No kind of sophistry on the part of those members of the Committee who wanted to be "shown," ever in the least disturbed his self-poise, his suavity, or his ability to answer the puzzling questions. When he was urged to consider the fact that the measures which he espoused would "ruin business," he did not respond as he might well have done, "business be damned," but he proceeded to impress upon the Committee that the welfare of humanity, the health of the people and their proper nourishment were a great deal more important problems than the accumulation of wealth by a few trading in adulterated and misbranded products. So calm was he in his consideration of the subject, so careful in his attitude and so truthful in his replies that he always came off victor in these encounters with the Committee.

I have had the honor and pleasure of being associated with Dr. Kober in his lifetime devotion to the conquering of tuberculosis. I do not recall ever having been present at a meeting of the Directors of the Anti-Tuberculosis

Society in the District of Columbia at which he was not present. I regret that owing to many circumstances over which I had no control, he has had many opportunities to note my own absence from these meetings.

Dr. Kober early perceived that prophylactic medicine was a greater factor in human welfare than therapeutic medicine. He has, therefore, given all his time, his ability and his means largely in this direction. His monumental work on "Occupational Diseases and Their Control" is an evidence of his zeal, his mastery of the theme, and his helpful instructive work. Those who are able to drive a motor car have often noticed that in one make, quite common, there seems to be an innate faculty of self reparation. For instance, if in driving a Ford one of the cylinders misses fire, you need not get out with a monkey wrench and a screw driver and repair the trouble. All you have to do is to keep on going and presently all will go well. This is a practice which leads one to follow that school of medicine which very properly regards the human body as a Ford motor car, capable of restoring of itself any dislocated parts. All you have to do is just to let "natur caper," and one great function of preventive medicine is to see that nature has a chance to "caper" properly. We have long since learned that drugs do not cure. They may sometimes aid nature, but they never can function when nature gives up the job. He has realized throughout his later life at least, that sanitation, diet, exercise, sleep, play and favorable environment, condition the true *vis medicatrix naturae*. In doing this Dr. Kober has not become an osteopath to crack jokes on spinal columns and thus relieve human ills. He has maintained his view of a true physiologist who sees in the human body the most wonderful complex yet discovered, but nevertheless governed by an unalterable law. He would not send his ailing watch to a blacksmith for repairs, nor his ailing body to an osteopath.

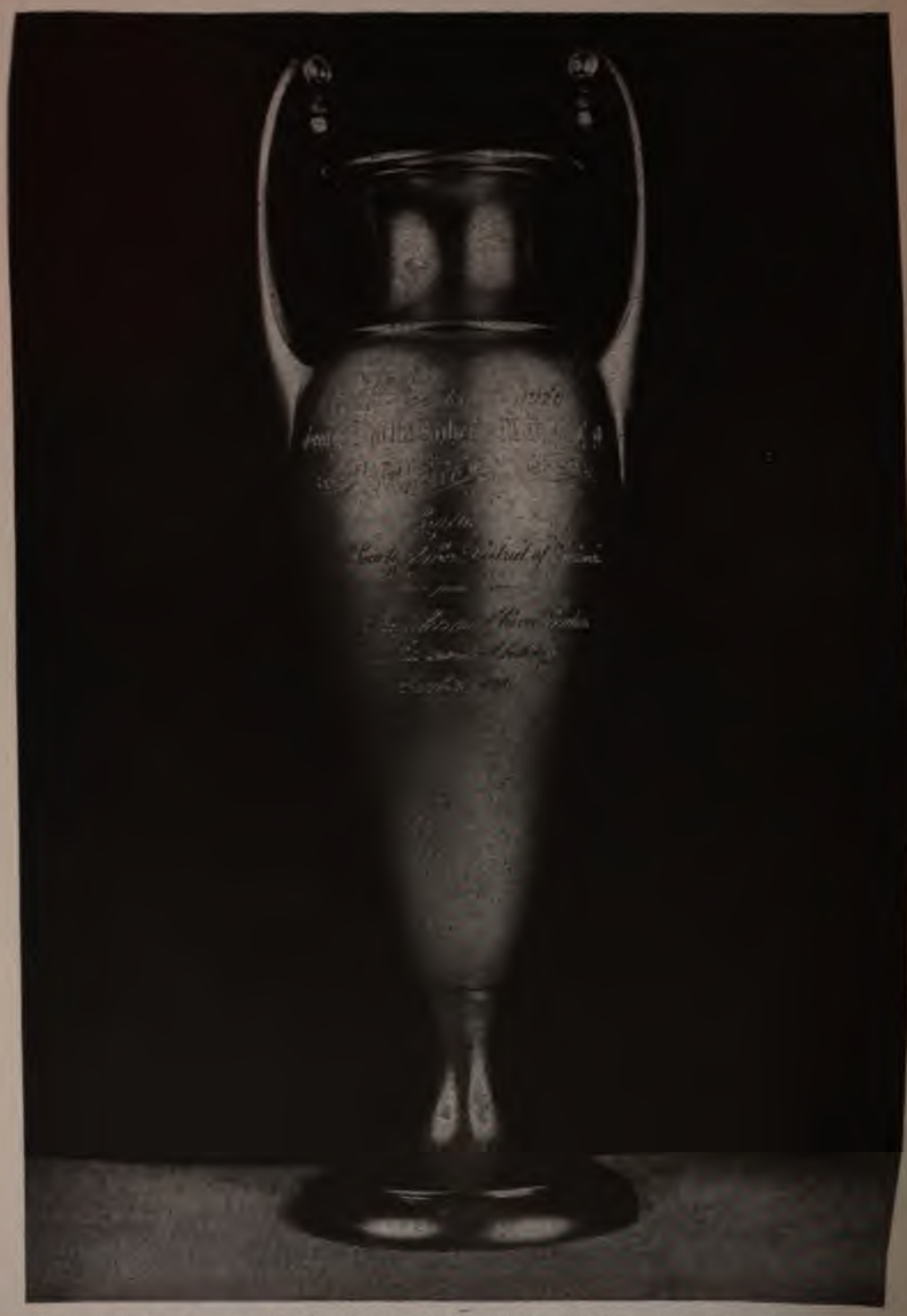
Dr. Kober has fortunately been so situated as to give the greater part of his time to help humanity. If everyone were animated by the same spirit which he has always shown, then the greatest blessing that could come to a man would be to be born with an income so that he might give all his work to philanthropy. In that case, however, Hamlet would soon be minus a job as there would be no one needing help. The man who closes his eyes to the "will o' the wisp" of fortune-making, and sees only the work he can do for human betterment deserves all the praise. We have come to look upon the acquisition of wealth as the only measure of success. We have also seen some illustrations of the men who acquire wealth who have given most generously to human improvement. In the last few years we have seen legisla-

tive efforts which tend to relieve the wealthy of a large part of their means, in some instances up to 65% of their total income. How much better it would be if we had in this country the same public spirit which ruled Athens in the glorious days of Greek civilization. Although there was no law to that effect, yet public opinion was so strong in that center of culture as to prevent a man from accumulating wealth for his own use. He gave his wealth freely to the state and lived himself in a humble home such as the ordinary citizen of Athens inhabited. Dr. Kober has always been actuated by the noble spirit of the civic life of Athens.

Usually when one reaches the dignity of septuagenarian it is expected that the younger members of the community shall do him honor. I feel, therefore, that I am particularly favored in having been selected as one of those who came to do him honor and still look upon him as a boy. I love to encourage youth. I remember Gladstone's great work entitled "Juventus Mundi," written when he had reached his eightieth year and as Gladstone looked down on that sea of youth to which he ascribed the hope and salvation of the world, so do I look down on this youth whom we honor here tonight and trust that now at the threshold of his great career he may keep that strength and courage, that hope and ambition which he has manifested in his boyish days and that now as he steps into the full light and activity of adolescent maturity he may keep his gaze, as he has already done, on the high mark which he has set, that he may fail not in his aspirations for the betterment of the community, and when, as an octogenarian, he looks back on the most fruitful decennial period of his life, he may feel that he has hitched his chariot to a star and the hitching strap has never been broken.

The Toastmaster—Introducing Dr. Charles W. Richardson.

One of the first and most important tasks which confronted the Medical Society in arranging for this evening's event was the selection of a chairman. It was conceded that the one who was to hold this tried position must be an old and tried member of the Medical Society and must have an unusual capacity for organization. The chairman who was selected has already testified to his capacity for organization by the success of this event. He is a man distinguished in the surgical specialty which has been his life work, called to many posts of honor in the associations of those devoted to rhinology and otology, and distinguished and honored for his work in the office of the Surgeon General and elsewhere during the great World War. He has something



Presented to George Martin Kober, M.D., LL.D., Soldier, Scientist, Physician and Philanthropist, by the Medical Society of the District of Columbia and Allied Scientific and Civic Societies on his Seventieth Birthday, March 28, 1920.

very important to say both to Dr. Kober and to the guests at this dinner this evening and I will waste no further words in introducing Dr. Charles W. Richardson, Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements for this evening's function.

Dr. Charles W. Richardson

President American Otological Society; President American Laryngological Rhinological and Otological Society; At present Trustee American Medical Association.

Dr. George Martin Kober—This day, the anniversary of your seventieth birthday, the Medical Society of the District of Columbia and allied scientific and civic organizations honor themselves in bearing tribute to you.

We are proud of the fact that each of the contributing organizations here assembled claim you as their own; but we of the medical profession are prouder of the fact that we have had you in our fellowship longer. This is manifest further from the evidences you bear of our training, for without this training and the broad humanitarian principles developed in you out of your medical experience, it is possible, but not probable that your mind would have been directed along the various social, civic and philanthropic efforts, to which you have directed your attention during the latter days of your eventful career.

You are a living demonstration of what a man of vision, capacity, scientific training, with indomitable courage and persistence may accomplish within three score and ten years.

You, sir, epitomize the honor of labor. In whatever field of labor you entered, you gave to it your uttermost efforts. What an example you offer to the youth of the present age!

Distinguished in medicine, hygiene, anthropology, general science, sociology, philanthropy, you stand today in your seventieth year as one whom this assemblage and the community at large take pride in honoring.

And as a special mark of affectionate esteem for you the pleasant task has been accorded me of placing in your hands this emblem of our pride, confidence and admiration. When this evening with its addresses and delightful surroundings is all but a memory you may turn to this emblem as the material evidences of the well wishes of your friends for the remaining happy years that are to come to you.

"Your health tonight
Take from this board of friendly hearts
The memory of a proud delight."

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

Dr. George M. Kober

Dean of the Georgetown Medical School.

Response.

Mr. President, Friends and Colleagues:

I thank you from the depths of my heart for this evidence of good will and esteem. Your kindness and the beautiful words spoken are overwhelming and I find it difficult to give adequate expression of my gratitude.

When 53 years ago I landed in New York Harbor, I was indeed a youth without a country. My father, a German revolutionist of 1848, had vowed that none of his sons should serve under a German prince, king or potentate, and upon arriving at military age one after the other renounced allegiance to the Grand Duke of Hesse, and sought refuge in this hospitable country, the home of the free and the brave. If, in the course of years, I have become a useful citizen of my adopted country, I owe it not only to the inspiration of my dear father, who shared the ideals of men like Carl Schurz, but also in large part to my good American friends who always acted upon the Golden Rule.

After four years service in the Army I met Senator Schurz in Washington, in 1871, and became a ready convert to his doctrines on the Americanization of the German element in this country. There were at that time between five and six thousand German born citizens in this city—all engaged in useful occupations and many of their descendants occupy prominent positions in business and the skilled trades today. It is true they had a German newspaper founded in 1854 by a former townsman of mine—they also had their singing societies, sporting, athletic and dramatic clubs and churches in which the services were conducted in German, because they were in the transition stage and had to acquire a new language. But at heart they were all true Americans, and during the Civil War, the editor of the *German Journal* organized a battalion of Germans, left his printing office and fought for the preservation of the Union. His son, Edward Koch, has been connected with the United States Census Bureau for many years and is Chief of the Division of Population of the present census.

These German gatherings were not infrequently graced by the presence of members of the Cabinet and other men prominent in public life. Senator Schurz and our fellow citizen, the Honorable Simon Wolf, never lost an opportunity on such occasions to impress upon the Germans the importance

of speedy Americanization. My own contribution to the movement consisted in my opposition, in 1874, to the organization of a German Dispensary, but I did aid in the reorganization of the Central Dispensary and the appointment of a few German speaking physicians on the dispensary staff. In this I was ably supported by my friend, the publisher of the *German Journal*. I could accomplish my aim all the more readily, as my prospective appointment in the army and removal to the Pacific Coast precluded all suspicion of selfish motives.

I look upon my early life in Washington, from September, 1871, to July, 1874, as arduous but extremely profitable. In addition to my duties in the Surgeon-General's Office I attended the evening courses at Georgetown Medical College, and have sincerely grateful recollections of my professors and my earnest fellow students. As pointed out by Dr. William C. Woodward, I enjoyed the privilege of attending the meetings of the Medical Society of the District of Columbia as a Senior medical student, but had little suspicion then that I would at some future time be tendered a complimentary dinner by the members thereof and receive enconium for my activities in this Society. I fear my former chief has deviated from his usual judicious temper and, like many others befitting an occasion of this kind, has become an over-indulgent critic. He has failed to tell you that I have only partially discharged my obligations to the Society and this community and that without your co-operation my feeble efforts would have been in vain. I must own here that whatever success I may have attained in my professional career is largely due to the teachings and example of men of the type of Busey, Eliot, Johnston-Mackall, Ashford, Morgan, Ford Thompson and a host of others who especially impressed me by their steadfast purpose to keep abreast with the progress of medical science. I sincerely hope that every physician, young and old alike, will enroll in the ranks of builders of our Medical Temple, where study, honesty and truth serve as watchwords. I still am convinced that a medical society is a graduate school in which the members teach each other. This form of education cannot fail to prove of value not only to the members, but also to the public at large. Indeed the progress of sanitation of the National capital is intimately connected with the history of our old and honorable institution.

I extend my heartiest thanks to President Hagner to Toastmaster Foote and to two of my oldest yet young friends, Richardson and Woodward, for the kind words spoken. To the members of the Society I owe special thanks for the

many honors conferred upon me during the last 46 years, and which have culminated tonight in this splendid testimonial of your good will. It is my fond hope that the Medical Society of the District of Columbia may continue to grow in usefulness and influence commensurate with the physical and intellectual development of the capital of a great nation.

I also wish to thank the poet of the occasion, my old and true friend, Dr. S. Adolphus Knopf of New York, for his presence and the beautiful sentiments expressed by a man whose fame as a successful crusader against tuberculosis is world-wide.

Time will not permit me to speak of my military career as a "Soldier and Country Doctor" from 1874 to 1889. It was a life full of impressive events, and I have learned many lessons in humanity and the brotherhood of man from my soldier and cowboy patients, the sturdy pioneers and the devoted Jesuit Missionary Fathers of the Far West. I desire, however, to express my deep obligations to the Medical Corps of the United States Army, and especially to Surgeons Wright, Burns, Barnes, Crane, Billings, Woodward, Otis and last but not least Sternberg, who did much to promote my youthful hopes and aspirations. All of these men have gone to their long home but their descendant representatives here, I am sure, will gladly accept my thanks. The medical officers have achieved great success in preventive medicine, the results of which are of incalculable value to the human race, and it is hoped that a grateful Congress may so regulate the salaries as to attract good men into the public services and keep them there so that the warfare against preventable diseases may go on to a final victory.

I greatly appreciate the presence of representatives of the Washington Academy of Sciences and Allied Societies and the kind and friendly words spoken by Dr. Woodward of the Carnegie Institution. I can only say that in all my connections with scientific bodies I have received more knowledge than was possible for me to impart. To me these affiliations have been a great source of education—they have given me the power to think, a broader vision of life, taught me the value of pure science, revealed to me the beauties of creation and the marvelous achievements in the different departments of science for the benefit of mankind. I regard science as the conservator of truth and its light is light from Heaven.

To my friends of the Anthropological Society of Washington I owe special thanks for their partiality in choosing me as their presiding officer for three different terms. They were also instrumental in the organization of a

National Committee, which made the presentation of the Anniversary volume of the *Journal of Physical Anthropology* possible, and have thus conferred a singular honor which no man, however modest, can fail to be proud of. I appreciate the words spoken by Professor Holmes very deeply. May the life of the Nestor of American Anthropology be spared for many years to come, so that his bright, fertile and discerning mind, always urging, encouraging and inspiring, may continue to exert a still greater influence on American Anthropology which, thanks to his leadership, already occupies a most enviable position among the nations of the earth. My association with men of science in their regular meeting places and in the hospitable home of Dr. Alexander Graham Bell have been so profitable that I cannot refrain from urging my medical friends to seek similar contact.

My sincere thanks are due Professor Wiley for his appreciative remarks. He was the author of the Pure Food and Drug Bill and deserves all the credit. I was only a convert to the cause which he represented and followed his leadership. By his successful campaign against adulterated foods and drugs which vitally affect not only the pocket-book but also the health of the consumer, he is entitled to the gratitude of the nation. Moreover, the enforcement of the law has made for better citizenship. It was arduous work, carried to a finish without fear, favor or affection, and I can only express the hope that he may enjoy many years of usefulness in the cause of humanity, good government and good citizenship.

After hearing Mr. Macfarland's citation from Aristotle, I realize quite fully that both of us, as also Professor Wiley, owe our ideals of civic duties to this great philosopher, who also was a great physician, and showed his sanitary acumen when he wrote in his Politia: "The greatest influence on health is exerted by those things which we most freely and frequently require for our existence, and this is especially true of water and air." If he had lived in these modern times of food and drug sophistication he would doubtless have emphasized the importance of pure food and drugs. It is a fact however that no two factors have contributed more to the health of the national capital than the improvement of the air we breathe and the water we drink, and in this Mr. Macfarland, as a private citizen and later as President of the Board of Commissioners, has taken a very important part. Indeed in most of the activities mentioned by him, Mr. Macfarland was one of the leading spirits and so was Mr Charles Moore, Secretary of the Senate Committee

on the District of Columbia, and now chairman of the Fine Arts Commission and a host of others who are present tonight.

In reference to my humanitarian activities in the city of Washington, which have been so appreciatively dwelt upon by Professor Wiley and Mr. Macfarland, I cannot help but feel that I would not have been a worthy citizen had I failed to do otherwise.

I owe all I possess to my adopted country. I began and I completed my medical education while in the Army of the United States, and began the practice of medicine in the army, and within 15 years by a simple life and rigid economy accumulated a modest competency, the income of which I deemed quite sufficient for a man of my frugal habits, and I concluded therefore that I must quit making money and devote my entire time to teaching and work connected with public health and social and industrial betterment. If in the meantime my investments have yielded greater returns and enabled me to enlarge the scope of my usefulness, I owe it to the good management of a former grateful cowboy patient, and see in him and in my numerous friends both in and out of the profession, the rewards of an overruling Providence.

If I have been able to accomplish something for the welfare of my fellow man it is due to the hearty co-operation of my co-workers, many of whom are present tonight, while others have gone to their long home. You have indeed brightened the evening of my life by the numerous evidences of good will and esteem. For the kind thoughts of those who organized this celebration and for the kind words spoken and for the presence of all my good friends I feel truly grateful. Of all honors which have come to me, none are more appreciated than the approval of my conduct by my friends and co-workers.

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

During the course of the dinner the following poem and other tributes were read.

To Dr. George M. Kober, M. D., L L. D.

Soldier, Scientist, Physician and Philanthropist, on His Seventieth Birthday, March 28, 1920.

S. Adolphus Knopf, M.D.

Your cradle stood on foreign soil,
But love of liberty was your inheritance;
Your father was of those who suffered long
From persecution and tyranny.
He vowed that you should never be
The simple minion of a lord of war,
Bowing to king and potentate;
But if a soldier you should wish to be
You then should serve in freedom's holy cause.
So you came here and cordial greeting found,
For men like you Columbia gladly welcomes
And you repaid her well.
You served her first as humble helper
To sick and wounded heroes of the war.
A faithful student of our noble art you next became
And soon attained a magister's degree.
As soldier and physician you combined
True bravery with sympathy of heart, and thus
Became the friend of many a suffering soul.
And when to former comrades in the field you bade adieu
All said "Well done, God speed you on your way."
A life of great devotion then began,
To civic welfare, art and science given;
Your earnest studies fitted you to teach
To show the younger men what hygiene means.
And prove prevention of disease surpasses cure.
By your endeavors, plagues and water-borne disease
Were banished from within your city fair;

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

You found the reason why so many died
Of that disease of all diseases;
And better housing of the poor became your passion.
Now sanitary homes for black and white
Arose where once was wilderness.
Next to housing of the laboring men
You studied how to make his occupation safe
And thus prevent disease among the workers.
So manifold your triumphs were
In battling with disease and death,
In this small space I cannot count them all,
And in your modesty you will not tell
What greater things you did for God and man.
Throughout your long and earnest life
Your greatest joy has been to work,
But never for yourself. To serve,
To help wherever there was greatest need
Was your ideal, the motive of your life.
So then be thanked on this your honor day,
For inspiration and example you have given
To pupils and to friends,
For countless deeds of mercy and of good
You gave to others.
Now may reward of peace and happiness
Be yours for many years to come
And may no cloud of sorrow cast a shadow
On the evening of your life.

From the Sisters of the Order of St. Francis.

These flowers express in a slight degree only the love and affection of the Sisters in charge of the Georgetown University Hospital for George M. Kober, M.D., LL.D., for his great kindness to them so cheerfully given at all times since the organization of the Hospital.

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

Dr. C. W. Richardson:

Had fully expected to be present at the dinner in honor of Doctor Kober tonight, but am prevented. Please extend my congratulations to Dr. Kober. It is very fitting that his high-minded professional success and his unselfish life should be honored by this testimonial dinner.

L. F. BARKER. (Baltimore.)

George M. Kober, care Dr. Richardson at Rauscher's, Washington, D. C.:

Accept my heartiest congratulations on your seventieth birthday; may you live long and continue your splendid humanitarian work for which you are so greatly respected and admired.

S. J. MELTZER. (New York.)

Dr. George M. Kober:

Have been looking forward to being present at dinner in your honor tonight but find myself unavoidably detained by important business in New York. Greatly disappointed and send my warmest congratulations and best wishes for many more years of the same kind of usefulness you have given in the past.

LIVINGSTON FARRAND. (American Red Cross.)

Dr. Charles W. Richardson:

Affectionate greetings to Dr. Kober. Sorry impossible for me to leave home and attend dinner in Dr. Kober's honor which I would rather join in than any other celebration I can think of.

CHARLES WILLIAM WHITE. (Pittsburgh.)

And how will the "Kiddie" feel on his birthday next Sunday? Well and contented in mind and body I hope. It is pleasant to grow old as I know full well. May the coming years be as fruitful in friends and achievements as the last have been.

W. W. KEEN. (Philadelphia.)

Dear Doctor Richardson:

The announcement of the dinner to be given to Dr. Kober has just been received. I should be only too delighted if it were possible for me to attend, but I am sure that this is out of the question. Will you not express to Dr. Kober my sincere regrets and my great admiration for his untiring interest

in and devotion to all activities and measures designed to promote the advancemen of medicine and public health.

With many regrets that I cannot attend the dinner, I am

Very sincerely yours,

HERMAN M. BIGGS.

Dear Dr. Richardson:

I have been hoping to be able to attend the complimentary dinner to be given to Dr. George M. Kober on his seventieth birthday by the Medical Society of the District of Columbia and other scientific and civic organizations on March 27th, but find that owing to circumstances over which I have no control, it will be impossible for me to be present.

It has been my good fortune to be in a position to number Dr. Kober among my valued friends. I have long felt that he belongs to a small group of lofty idealists—men who have a vision and consistently and persistently pursue that vision. Such men who we dare to call our professional brethren deserve our gratitude for the inspiration experienced through their example. It is not so much perhaps the result of their intellectual power as their elevating and stimulating influence, which gives us a higher and in every way, superior perspective of life.

How cheerfully I should show my appreciation of Dr. Kober's long and useful life by indicating my presence at the banquet, if this were possible. Please pardon the liberty I have taken to express my feeble tribute to a real hero and ornament of our noble profession.

J. M. ANDERS. (Philadelphia.)

My dear Dr. Richardson:

Dr. George M. Kober has done so much to advance medicine and the interests of the medical profession in this country that I should be most happy to join in a complimentary dinner to him on the occasion of his seventieth birthday. Unfortunately, it will not be possible for me to leave Philadelphia on March 27th. I trust you will be good enough to extend to Dr. Kober my best wishes for many more years of health and happiness. As long as the world is interested in industrial medicine and occupational diseases, Dr. Kober's work in that field will keep his name alive.

DAVID RIESMAN. (Philadelphia.)

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

My dear Dr. Richardson:

I am very sorry that I shall not be able to participate in the dinner to be given to Dr. Kober on the seventieth anniversary of his birthday. I have known him and esteemed him highly for a long time. We were together on the Counsel of the Association of American Physicians for a good many years,—he as Secretary and I as Treasurer. My congratulations go with this, even though I cannot be present.

L. P. CROZIER GRIFFITH. (Philadelphia.)

My dear Dr. Richardson:

Your invitation to the complimentary dinner to be tendered to Dr. George M. Kober in commemoration of his seventieth birthday, on March 27, 1920, was received during my absence and was handed to me on my return to the city a day or so ago.

I am very sorry indeed that it will not be possible for me to be with you on what should be a very memorable evening. Dr. Kober's services to industrial hygiene and the advancement of public health in the United States covering many years of tremendous activities have left lasting results which are almost incalculable in value. It is a delight to us who have known him many years to realize that he is still in the enjoyment of the best of health, and that we may have a continuation of his admirable services for many years to come.

I hope on an early occasion to have the opportunity of extending my congratulations to Dr. Kober in person. Should this however not occur prior to the time of the dinner, may I ask you to extend to him for me the good wishes of all his colleagues who really have no fitting way of expressing their admiration for him and for the splendid services which he has rendered.

LEE K. FRANKEL. (Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.)

Dear Dr. Richardson:

I am exceedingly sorry but I shall not be able to get to Washington for the dinner to be given in honor of Dr. Kober. I would be glad to give proof of my personal friendship for Dr. Kober and my admiration of his unselfish devotion and intelligent work for the good of humanity. Unfortunately, I cannot get away from New York at that time. Please express my deep regret to Dr. Kober as well as to your committee.

Sincerely yours,

J. M. GLENN,

Russell Sage Foundation, New York.

in and devotion to all activities and measures
men of medicine and public health.

With many regrets that I cannot atte

Very since

Dear Dr. Richardson:

I have been hoping to be a
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rs,
WALCOTT,
ry Smithsonian Institution.

Army Medical School.
Washington, D. C., April 12th,

r Kober Anniversary Tribute.

April 10th, I may say that Dr. Kober is one
have a great admiration. I am glad that in
the United States, the Medical Department of
when they saw one and therefore were of assist
his long and honorable career. I was associate
Kober in the organization of the Congress of Hyg
met in this city—rather an historic occasion as it
these important international congresses, and it s
view of the world disturbance, that others of the same n
years. Dr. Kober was the President of one of the
of that Congress and performed his important func
credit to himself and American medical science.

Sincerely yours,

WALTER D. MCCAW,

Brigadier-General, Asst. Surgeon General, U. S. A

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

LIEBER Onkel!—Hocherfreut,
Gratulieren wir Dir heut,
Wir sind hier im Geiste nah
Bei Dir in Amerika
Und der traute Mutterlaut
Grüsst Dich heut als süsse Braut.
Wo wir Deiner Jugend denken
Und das Deutsche Herz Dir schenken.
Wo dein Wiegenfest erschienen
Wollen wir Dich froh bedienen.
Weil Du schon von Jugend an
Vielen Menschen wohlgetan.
Durch Dein'n Geist und tiefes Wissen
Legen wir zu Deinen Füssen
In dem schlichten Doktorkleide
Unsern Ehrenkranz mit Freude.
Heute danken—tausend Brüder
Alle freudig,—hoch und nieder
Dass in Nächstenlieb beflissen
Du sie hast dem Tod entrissen
Feind vom Streit und Völlerei,
Von der Menschheit Tyrannei
Hast Du edles Blut geschaffen
Durch des Geistes Sieg und Waffen.
Denn gar bald wird es auf Erden
Einigkeit und Frieden werden, —
Alle müssen wir bekennen
Dass sie Dich als Helfer nennen,
Der so viele hat frei gemacht
Von der Sünde, Last und Schmach.
Heute bist Du siebzig Jahr
Hoch geehrt als Jubilar,
Alt geworden mit Vergnügen,
Denn Gesundheit muss doch siegen
Die der Herr Dir hat beschieden.
Leb darum noch lang in Frieden
Wie seither für Menschenwohl
Immer gut und liebevoll.

HELWIG KOBER.

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

Dear Doctor Kober:

It is with sincere regret that I find (owing to a coriza cold) that I shall not be able to be present at the banquet given in your honor this evening.

Through all the years that I have known and been associated with you in various scientific activities in Washington, I have always had the greatest regard for your continuity of purpose, sincerity, and self-abnegation if only the result desired could be secured.

I trust that the inspiration of the banquet will act as a compelling force to sustain you in your good work for a decade to come, and that ten years from now your friends may have the opportunity of again paying their tribute of friendship, respect and admiration.

Sincerely yours,
CHARLES D. WALCOTT,
Secretary Smithsonian Institution.

Army Medical School.
Washington, D. C., April 12th, 1920.

REV. FRANCIS A. TONDORF, S.J., Editor Kober Anniversary Tribute,
Georgetown University,
Washington, D. C.

My Dear Sir:

Answering your note of April 10th, I may say that Dr. Kober is one of my old friends for whom I have a great admiration. I am glad that in his youth, when he came to the United States, the Medical Department of the Army knew a good man when they saw one and therefore were of assistance in starting Dr. Kober on his long and honorable career. I was associated in 1911 and 1912 with Dr. Kober in the organization of the Congress of Hygiene and Demography which met in this city—rather an historic occasion as it was the last of many of these important international congresses, and it seems very unlikely, in view of the world disturbance, that others of the same nature will be held for many years. Dr. Kober was the President of one of the most important sections of that Congress and performed his important functions with distinguished credit to himself and American medical science.

Sincerely yours,
WALTER D. MCCAW,
Brigadier-General, Asst. Surgeon General, U. S. Army.

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE.

LIEBER Onkel!—Hocherfreut,
Gratulieren wir Dir heut,
Wir sind hier im Geiste nah
Bei Dir in Amerika
Und der traute Mutterlaut
Grüsst Dich heut als süsse Braut.
Wo wir Deiner Jugend denken
Und das Deutsche Herz Dir schenken.
Wo dein Wiegenfest erschienen
Wollen wir Dich froh bedienen.
Weil Du schon von Jugend an
Vielen Menschen wohlgetan.
Durch Dein'n Geist und tiefes Wissen
Legen wir zu Deinen Füssen
In dem schlichten Doktorkleide
Unsern Ehrenkranz mit Freude.
Heute danken—tausend Brüder
Alle freudig,—hoch und nieder
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Du sie hast dem Tod entrissen
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Immer gut und liebevoll.

HELWIG KOBER.

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DR. GEORGE M. KOBER

WASHINGTON, D. C., 1920

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WASHINGTON, D. C., 1920

Geo. M. Kober;

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF GEORGE M. KOBER, M.D., LL.D.

DEAN AND PROFESSOR OF HYGIENE, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE,

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, WASHINGTON, D. C.

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